



BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCORPORATING THAT OF THE

Senior Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1958



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

"DINSDALE"

MARINE TERRACE

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NORTHUMBERLAND



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TEL. NO. BLYTH 3388

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : COUNCILLOR RUTHERFORD.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR BREADIN.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLOR SMITH.

ALDERMAN THOMPSON.

„ SUMMERS.

COUNCILLOR BOUND.

„ TURNBULL.

„ ELDER.

„ TWEDDLE.

„ HEPPLÉ.

„ WESTGARTH.

„ HUDSPITH.

„ WOOLFREY.

„ PURVIS.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1958

Medical Officer of Health ... A. DONALDSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector ... G. A. GILL, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Insp.... W. ALLAN, M.A.P.H.I.

Trainee Public Health Insp. ... R. CHEETHAM (Commenced 5.5.58).

Clerk C. FELLOWS.

Shorthand Typist V. COLPITTS (Commenced 2.1.58).

Rodent Officer B. WADE.

BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1958

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions in the Borough during the year 1958.

The population, according to the Registrar General's estimate, is 34,620, which is an increase of 150 over 1957.

The uncorrected birth rate fell from 17.8 per 1,000 population to 17.5 per 1,000. The crude death rate rose from 10.1 per 1,000 population to 10.5 per 1,000.

There were 23 infant deaths in 1958, compared with 12 in 1957, giving an infant mortality rate of 37.8 per 1,000 live births. This at first sight seems a considerable increase over 1957, and indeed it is. It should be pointed out, however, that 19 of the deaths were under one month and, indeed, 16 were under one week; seven infant deaths were due to prematurity and five were due to congenital defects. It should also be noted that many of the babies who survived even a short period would never have been born alive several years ago and would have come under the category of still births.

There were 208 cases of infectious disease notified during the year—a very low figure. No case of diphtheria has been notified since 1949.

The health of the population is good, but much remains to be done regarding housing standards.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement during the year and my colleagues in other departments for their unfailing co-operation. The Health Department staff deserves high praise for the work carried out during the year, for sickness and change of staff added to their difficulties. The extra work has been tackled cheerfully and willingly.

I remain,

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER DONALDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1958

DELEGATION OF HEALTH AND WELFARE FUNCTIONS

Local Councils rightly assert that they know best the needs of their own people and that, given the powers, they could provide for these.

Ten years ago many functions were taken from them and given to the County Council to administer. An opportunity has arisen whereby some of these functions, and others, may be returned to the district Councils if they can make out a sufficiently strong case for themselves.

Unfortunately, the functions to be delegated must be inclusive, and, for smaller Authorities, they would appear to be quite formidable.

Certain duties which require several staff units for their functioning and administration are eminently feasible, but others which require only single or less than single units present difficulties to the smaller Authorities.

Child Welfare Centres with their attendant staffs, home nursing and midwifery may well be within the administrative scope of an Authority of 35,000 population.

Welfare of disabled persons, however, would be uneconomic to run efficiently for such a population. The same applies to the functions relating to the mentally ill and mentally defective.

Should certain of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Mental Health be adopted, however, the latter would not present such a problem as increased staff would most certainly be required. The difficulty would then be to find the trained personnel to carry out this work.

There are other snags, too, even as far as Health Visitors and Nurses are concerned. An Authority of County status has the requirements and the resources to employ a number of supervising officers of very high calibre—people at the top of their professions. The staffs provided for the district

by the County at present are under this very experienced direction. It is doubtful whether the smaller Authority would be able to attract, and indeed be able to pay, such experienced and skilled administrators. Supervision would still be required but the attraction and recompense offered would be much less than in the larger Authority.

It must not be thought, however, that the biggest and most expensive article is always the best, but it is a truism that one has to pay for quality.

The smaller Authority must be quite sure that the service it will give will be at least as good as that at present operating. The nursing and health visiting services in Blyth are well developed at present and their scope has increased greatly since 1948. There is ever increasing co-operation between these staffs and the general practitioners, and that in itself is a great achievement.

It would appear to me that the functions set out for delegation would overburden an Authority of less than 60,000 population and it is unfortunate that all the functions must be accepted instead of allowing a selected few.

I have no doubt in my own mind that the welfare of the aged and of the mentally sick are duties which would be best administered by committees with local knowledge. The aged and infirm should be looked after locally. These people, more often than not, have their roots firmly entrenched in their own town, and to move them even a few miles outside the boundary can cause the apathy and degeneration concomitant with speedy demise. Similarly with the mentally ill. It would still be necessary for such patients to be treated in the existing in-patient hospitals. The trend in the future, however, points to early discharge for the majority, with increased supervision at home and out-patient departments. Remote control of the supervising staff would appear to lessen the chances of co-operation with the family doctor and local control would seem to strengthen it.

SMOKING AND ITS HAZARDS

Smoking in Britain is still increasing. Three-million pounds (lbs.) more tobacco were smoked in 1957-8 than in

1956-7—in all 241-million pounds (lbs.) were smoked in 1957-8.

LUNG CANCER DEATHS ARE ALSO INCREASING

In 1945—188 deaths per million were due to LUNG CANCER.

In 1955—338 „ „ „ „

In 1957—430 „ „ „ „

ALMOST DOUBLE IN 10 YEARS !

MORE THAN DOUBLE IN 12 YEARS !

Among—

Males 1 death in 18 is due to Lung Cancer.

Females 1 „ 103 „ „

Non-smokers 1 „ 300 „ „

Heavy Smokers 1 „ 8 „ „

SIGNIFICANT !

In 1910— 400 people died in Britain from Lung Cancer.

In 1957—19,319 „ „ „

In 1910—39,000 people died in Britain from Pulmonary T.B.

In 1957— 4,229 „ „ „

We seem to have made notable progress with pulmonary tuberculosis in 47 years, but what we are gaining on the swings we appear to be losing just as rapidly on the lung cancer roundabout.

Lung cancer deaths will continue to RISE. It is significant that female deaths from lung cancer are increasing.

Smoking and Sickness.

Death rates from all causes are 68% higher in smokers than in non-smokers and the rates rise with the number of cigarettes smoked.

The graph overleaf is interesting—it compares the death rates for non-smokers (as 100) with those of light, medium

and heavy smokers for all diseases, coronary heart disease and lung cancer.

I think the picture is frightening.

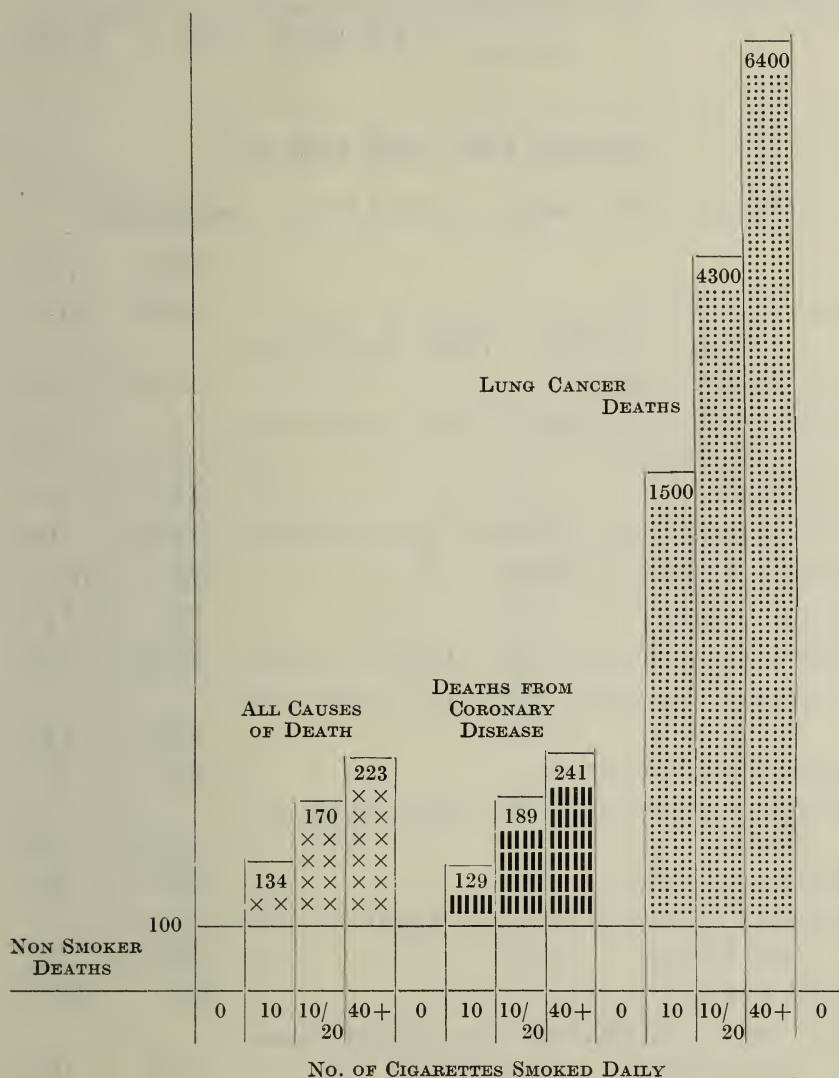
It is difficult to persuade most adults who have been inveterate smokers to give it up. Indeed, it may not always be wise to advise such a course, but it is a duty of all adults to try to dissuade young people from STARTING to SMOKE. This requires the help and example from everyone, especially doctors, nurses, teachers and parents. Yet how can a teacher have any success in preventing children from smoking when it is encouraged by parents at home—where a Christmas or birthday present for a thirteen-year-old is a cigarette case or a lighter ; or where the child's " tabs " are delivered with the weekly groceries.

It is difficult for a child to understand the relationship of starting smoking at 12 - 15 years of age and dying of lung cancer at 45 years or more.

I feel that constant repetition of the facts in school is the only answer at present.

This is indeed a challenge to everyone interested in health education and preventive medicine.

SMOKING AND ITS HAZARDS



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area.—No change.

Acreage.—6,487.

Population.—(Registrar-General's Estimate) .. 34,620

Rate Value.—(1st April, 1958) £289,024

Product of a Penny Rate (estimated) £1,123

Total Number of Dwellinghouses in Borough—
(1st April, 1958) 10,656

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Comparability Factor.—Births 1.00. Deaths 1.28.

	1958	1957
Total Live Births	608	610
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (uncorrected)	17.5	17.8
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (standardised)	17.5	17.8
Still Births	15	19
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	24.0	30.0
Total live and still births	623	629
Infant Deaths	23	12
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	37.8	19.5
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	31.2	14.6
Illegitimate live births	13	32
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	2.1	5.2
Maternal Deaths	Nil.	Nil.
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil.	Nil.
Total Deaths	365	348
The crude death rate per 1,000 home population	10.5	10.1
The standardised death rate per 1,000 home population	13.4	12.9
The tuberculosis death rate per 1,000 home population .. .. .	.08	.2

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
No. of live births...	708	660	674	618	618	638	585	624	610	608
No. of deaths ...	422	417	453	352	335	354	357	370	348	365
Excess of births over deaths...	286	243	221	266	283	284	228	254	262	243

Infantile Deaths and Infant Mortality Rates for the Ten Years 1949-1958

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Deaths ...	28	31	21	11	18	11	21	11	12	23
Infant Mortality Rate...	39.5	46.9	31.1	17.8	29.1	17.2	35.8	17.6	19.5	37.8

Causes of Infant Deaths

No.	Cause	Sex	Where death occurred	Age	Avoidable or not
1	Cerebral haemorrhage ...	F	Home	14 Hours	Not
2	Convulsions ...	F	Home	5 Months	Not
3	Congenital Heart Disease ...	F	Hospital	5 Days	Not
4	Congenital Heart Disease ...	M	Hospital	4 Months	Not
5	Prematurity ...	M	Hospital	20 Hours	Not
6	Prematurity ...	M	Hospital	2 Days	Not
7	Suffocation ...	M	Home	7 Days	Yes
8	Atelectasis ...	M	Hospital	3 Days	Not
9	Broncho-Pneumonia ...	M	Home	7 Months	Yes
10	Congenital Heart Disease ...	F	Hospital	1 Week	Not
11	Acute Otitis Media ...	M	Home	3 Weeks	Yes
12	Prematurity ...	M	Hospital	2 Hours	Not
13	Prematurity ...	M	Hospital	1 Day	Not
14	Intra Cranial Haemorrhage, and Prematurity ...	F	Home	6 Hours	Not
15	Atelectasis ...	M	Hospital	2 Hours	Not
16	Atelectasis and Prematurity...	M	Hospital	1 Day	Not
17	Multiple Congenital Defects ...	M	Home	15 Min's	Not
18	Prematurity ...	F	Hospital	2 Days	Not
19	Birth Injury to Liver ...	F	Hospital	1 Day	Not
20	Whooping Cough ...	F	Home	2 Months	Not
21	Prematurity ...	F	Hospital	9 Hours	Not
22	Haemolytic Disease ...	M	Hospital	1 Hour	Not
23	Prematurity ...	F	Hospital	3 Days	Not

19 Neo-natal deaths—*i.e.*, deaths under 4 weeks of age.

16 Neo-natal deaths under 1 week of age.

Causes of Death, 1958

Code No.	International Classification	Male	Female	Total
002	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	1	3
056	Whooping Cough	—	1	1
141	Malignant Neoplasm of Tongue	1	—	1
151	" " " Stomach	11	4	15
153	" " " Large Bowel	2	2	4
154	" " " Rectum	1	2	3
157	" " " Pancreas	4	—	4
162	" " " Bronchus and Lung	11	1	12
170	" " " Breast	—	3	3
171	" " " Cervix Uteri	—	2	2
172	" " " Corpus Uteri	—	1	1
176	" " " Vulva	—	1	1
177	" " " Prostate	2	—	2
179	" " " Penis	2	—	2
179.1	" " " Scrotum	1	—	1
180	" " " Kidney	—	1	1
181	" " " Bladder	1	—	1
190.6	" " " Shoulder (Melanoma)	—	1	1
199	" " " Unspecified	—	1	1
200	Lymphosarcoma	1	—	1
201	Hodgkin's Disease	1	1	2
204.1	Myeloid Leukaemia	2	1	3
260	Diabetes Mellitus	2	—	2
274	Suprarenal Haemorrhage	—	1	1
330	Subarachnoid Haemorrhage	2	2	4
331	Cerebral Haemorrhage	4	10	14
332	Cerebral Embolism or Thrombosis	28	25	53
340.2	Meningitis (Staphylococcal)	1	—	1
345	Disseminated Sclerosis	1	1	2
353.2	Status Epilepticus	1	—	1
391	Acute Otitis Media	1	—	1
420	Arterio Sclerotic Heart Disease	1	—	1
420.1	Coronary Thrombosis	45	31	76
420.2	Angina Pectoris	—	1	1
421	Chronic Endocarditis	—	1	1
422	Cardio-Vascular Degeneration	9	15	24
422.2	Myocardial Degeneration with Senility	9	6	15
433.1	Auricular Fibrillation	2	—	2
434.1	Congestive Heart Failure	8	12	20
434.2	Left Ventricular Failure	1	1	2
434.3	Cor Pulmone	3	—	3
451	Aortic Aneurysm	—	1	1
465	Pulmonary Embolism	—	3	3
490	Lobar Pneumonia	1	—	1
491	Broncho Pneumonia	12	3	15
502	Chronic Bronchitis	5	1	6
522	Hypostatic Pneumonia	2	2	4
540	Gastric Ulcer	2	—	2
541	Duodenal Ulcer	1	—	1
570.2	Mesenteric Infarction	1	—	1
572.1	Diverticulitis	1	—	1
587	Acute Pancreatitis	1	—	1
592	Chronic Nephritis	2	1	3
754.1	Congenital Heart Disease	1	2	3
759.3	Multiple Congenital Deformities	1	—	1
760	Intracranial Birth Injury	—	1	1
760.5	Intracranial Birth Injury with Prematurity	—	1	1
761	Ruptured Liver due to Birth Injury	1	1	2
762	Atelectasis	1	—	1
762.5	Atelectasis with Prematurity	2	—	2
770	Haemolytic Disease of New Born	1	—	1

Causes of Death, 1958—continued

Code No.	International Classification	Male	Female	Total
776	Prematurity	4	3	7
780.2	Convulsions	—	1	1
792	Uraemia	1	—	1
795	Toxaemia	—	1	1
E812	Motor Vehicle Accident to Pedestrian ...	—	1	1
E816	Motor Vehicle Accident	1	—	1
E840	Street Car Accident to Pedestrian ...	1	1	2
E841	Street Car Accident	1	—	1
E890	Accidental Coal Gas Poisoning	2	—	2
E900	Fall on Stairs	1	—	1
E929	Accidental Drowning	2	—	2
E972	Suicide, Coal Gas Poisoning	1	2	3
N947	Extensive Burns	1	—	1
N991	Asphyxiation	1	—	1
		211	154	365
	Deaths over 65 years of age	131	103	234
	Deaths 1—4 years inclusive	—	—	—

Deaths 1951-58 (1-4 years)

Year	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	Total
1951	—	2	1	—	3
1952	—	—	1	1	2
1953	1	—	2	1	4
1954	4	—	—	1	5
1955	—	—	1	—	1
1956	—	—	—	—	—
1957	—	—	—	—	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—

Deaths, 1958

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Number of Deaths each month	47	34	31	27	22	30	22	32	24	27	31	38	365

TUBERCULOSIS, 1958

Age Groups	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-20	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
21-25	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
26-30	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
31-35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36-40	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
41-45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46-50	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
51-55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56-60	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
61-65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 +	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	8	6	1	4	2	1	—	—
Grand Totals	14		5		3		—	

Statement of Tuberculosis—31st December, 1958

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTALS.
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
(a) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year	228	20	244	33	525
(b) Number of new cases notified under "Regulations of 1930" for the first time during the year	8	1	6	4	19
(c) Number of cases restored to Register having been removed previous to 1958	1	—	—	—	1
(d) Number of cases added to the Register and brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	1	—	—	—	1
(e) Number of cases removed from Register during the year ...	20	—	7	2	29
(f) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	218	21	243	35	517

TUBERCULOSIS 1944 - 1958

Table showing the number of Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases notified in the respective years and the number of deaths which have occurred, also the time elapsed from notification to death.

Year	Number of Notifica-tions	Number of Deaths	Period within which death occurred									
			Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-6 years	7-8 years	8-9 years	9-10 years	Over 10 yrs.
1958	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1957	36	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1956	46	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	69	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1954	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	62	8	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	96	10	6	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1951	88	17	7	—	2	3	3	2	—	—	—	—
1950	84	12	7	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
1949	72	16	5	3	5	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
1948	56	20	7	8	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
1947	47	25	6	12	3	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
1946	55	5	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1945	56	21	12	7	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1944	58	29	5	5	6	7	1	—	1	—	—	4
	883	168	65	42	25	14	7	5	3	3	—	4

TUBERCULOSIS, 1949 - 1958

Year			All forms of Tuberculosis notifications per year	Number of Deaths per year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1949	...	...	84	27	0.76
1950	...	...	92	17	0.48
1951	...	...	90	23	0.56
1952	...	...	103	13	0.38
1953	...	...	73	14	0.40
1954	...	...	49	8	0.23
1955	...	...	79	6	0.17
1956	...	...	52	7	0.20
1957	...	...	44	7	0.20
1958	...	...	19	3	0.08

Tuberculosis Case Rate per 1,000 population

1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
8.1	9.7	10.2	12.9	14.2	13.9	15.2	14.7	15.2	13.3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1958

There were 208 cases of infectious disease notified during 1958—the smallest total for many years.

MEASLES

There were 18 cases of measles notified during the year. The lowest figure ever.

WHOOPING COUGH

There were 144 cases of whooping cough notified compared with 56 in 1957. Only 18 of these cases had received inoculations against whooping cough. Eleven children had been previously immunised with combined vaccine, two children had a six year interval, two a four year interval, three a three year interval, two a two year interval and two a two month interval. One of the latter children, a baby of two months, died. The vaccine had insufficient time to become effective. In the whooping cough only prophylactic group, one had a six year interval, two a five year interval, two a four year interval, one a three year interval and one a two year interval.

If booster doses of either prophylactic had been given to those with four or more years interval, it is possible that nine children would have escaped the disease, and two had not had sufficient time to develop immunity, leaving seven children who had a one - three year interval from inoculation to contracting the disease.

A death from whooping cough makes it quite clear that this is still a dangerous disease, especially in the first year of life. Inoculation against whooping cough gives some protection which is well worth taking.

SCARLET FEVER

There were six cases of scarlet fever notified—another all time low record for the town.

DYSENTERY

There were 11 cases notified during the year in contrast to the 203 in 1957.

There were no cases of food poisoning notified, no cases of poliomyelitis and for the ninth successive year, no cases of diphtheria.

It is to be hoped that everyone will continue to support preventive measures against diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis. It is possible that poliomyelitis will disappear as diphtheria has done. THIS CAN ONLY BE MAINTAINED BY KEEPING UP A HIGH IMMUNISING AND VACCINATION RATE AGAINST THESE DISEASES.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1958

It is indeed a pleasure to present notification figures which are records indicating victory over a disease. While it is too early to affirm complete victory over tuberculosis, it would seem that this is a possibility in the foreseeable future. There were 14 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified in 1958 and 5 non-pulmonary.

Looking back to 1952, when there were 96 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 7 non-pulmonary, gives a feeling of present satisfaction. Satisfaction there can be, but no complacency. It will be several years before complete eradication of this disease becomes a fact.

Notifiable Diseases, 1958—Age Distribution

	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6—10	11—15	16—25	26—35	36—45	46—55	56—65	Over 65	K.N.	Total
Whooping Cough ...	17	13	14	17	23	36	21	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	144
Measles ...	—	3	1	2	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	18
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3
Tuberculosis Pulm. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	6	1	2	—	2	—	14
Tuberculosis Non-Pul. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	5
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ...	—	2	1	—	1	—	3	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	11
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	5
	17	19	16	19	27	40	31	4	6	13	4	5	3	4	—	208

Infectious Diseases and Age Distribution, 1958

	Scarlet Fever		Whoop- ing Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles		Diph- theria		Dysen- tery		Meningo- coccal Infection	
					Paralytic		Non- Paralytic									
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified : Total (all ages) ...	4	2	57	87	—	—	—	—	10	8	—	—	5	6	—	1
Final numbers after correction :																
Under 1 year	—	—	11	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2 years ...	—	—	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	1
2-3 " ...	—	—	3	11	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
3-4 " ...	—	—	6	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-5 " ...	1	—	9	13	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
5-9 " ...	3	2	21	36	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
10-14 " ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
15-24 " ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
25 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages) ...	4	2	57	87	—	—	—	—	10	8	—	—	5	6	—	1
	Acute Pneu- monia		Small- pox		Acute Encephalitis				Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Para- Typhoid Fever		Erys- ipelas		Food Poison- ing	
					Infec- tive		Post Infec- tious									
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified : Total (all ages) ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Final numbers after correction :																
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-44 " ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
45-64 " ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 and over ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages) ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
	Tuberculosis								Other Notifiable Diseases							
	Respira- tory				Menin- ges and C.N.S.											
													Original		Final	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified : Total (all ages) ...	8	6	—	—	1	4										
Final numbers after correction:																
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—										
5-14 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—										
15-24 " ...	2	3	—	—	—	—										
25-44 " ...	2	2	—	—	1	3										
45-64 " ...	1	1	—	—	—	1										
65 and over ...	2	—	—	—	—	—										
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—										
Total (all ages) ...	8	6	—	—	1	4										

Annual Returns for 10 years of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Tuberculosis (Pul.)	Tuberculosis (Other)	Whooping Cough	Measles	Malaria	Para Typhoid Fever	Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Ac. Encephalitis (Infective)	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia
1949	39	1	6	27	1	—	—	72	12	98	352	—	—	1	—	—	1	3
1950	44	—	17	58	5	5	—	84	8	282	652	1	—	3	1	1	—	—
1951	57	—	10	54	5	1	—	88	2	93	490	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	65	—	10	29	2	6	—	96	7	45	346	—	—	1	—	—	24	3
1953	83	—	8	16	1	1	—	62	11	190	747	—	2	—	—	—	5	6
1954	34	—	10	14	3	12	—	44	5	73	50	—	—	1	—	—	12	—
1955	11	—	11	24	2	108	—	69	10	65	853	—	—	3	—	—	8	2
1956	12	—	2	15	1	8	—	46	6	177	63	—	2	2	—	—	7	6
1957	11	—	7	9	—	203	—	36	8	56	859	—	—	2	—	—	2	1
1958	6	—	3	5	1	11	—	14	5	144	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

CANCER

Type All Causes ...				1958		1957		1956		1955		1954		1953	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
				37	19	55	26	42	27	36	35	48	35	33	28
				56		81		69		71		83		61	
Bronchogenic	...	...	...	11	1	20	1	13	1	13	2	12	3	9	1
Stomach	...	...	...	11	4	13	6	6	6	10	7	7	5	13	9
Intestine	...	...	...	3	4	5	2	7	6	5	5	8	5	3	2
Female Organs	...	...	...	—	7	—	10	—	8	—	11	—	16	—	9
Others	...	...	...	12	3	17	7	16	6	10	21	21	6	8	7

CANCER DEATHS, 1958

SITE AND AGE DISTRIBUTION

SITE OF DISEASE	MALE						FEMALE							
	0—25	26—35	36—45	46—55	56—65	Over 65	Total	0—25	26—35	36—45	46—55	56—65	Over 65	Total
Tongue ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Large Bowel ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rectum ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pancreas ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchus and Lung ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cervix Uteri ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corpus Uteri ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vulva ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Penis ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scrotum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kidney ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bladder ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shoulder (Melanoma)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lymphosarcoma ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	1	4	14	17	37	1	—	2	3	3	10	19

SICK BENEFIT SCHEME

1958

Number of workmen sick	...	...	...	...	...	175
Number of days lost by sickness	...	...	...	...	...	4,228
Number of days lost by sickness (Maintenance Staff)	...	...	...	...	...	3,536
Number of days lost by sickness (Direct Labour)	...	...	...	...	...	692
Number of Maintenance workers	...	...	...	...	...	245
Number of Direct Labour workers	...	...	...	...	...	45
Total persons employed	...	...	...	...	...	290
Average length of time off in days	...	...	...	...	...	24
Percentage of workmen sick during the year :						
Total	...	...	...	...	...	60%
Maintenance	...	...	...	...	...	58%
Direct Labour	...	...	...	...	...	69%

Commonest period of absence was 1 - 2 weeks. The commonest cause of absence was fibrositis and allied rheumatic conditions ; followed closely by influenza, injury and bronchitis.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES UNDER PART III, NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

These fall into two groups :

- (a) Those administered by the County Health Committee direct ;
- (b) Those administered by the County Health Committee through the East Area Health Sub-Committee.

The former includes :

1. The case of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.
2. Domiciliary midwifery and Home Nursing.
3. Health Visiting.

The latter includes :

1. Supervision of Child Welfare Centres.
2. Vaccination and Immunisation.
3. The Ambulance Service.
4. Prevention of illness, care and after-care.
5. The Home Help Service.

CARE OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

This is carried on in three centres in Blyth :

- (a) The Child Welfare Centre, Waterloo Road, Blyth.
- (b) The Child Welfare Centre, Cowpen Road, Blyth.
- (c) The Child Welfare Centre, Miners' Welfare, New Delaval.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Waterloo Road Clinic : Monday and Thursday afternoons.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

Waterloo Road Clinic : Tuesday all day and Thursday afternoon.

Cowpen Road Clinic : Friday afternoons.

New Delaval Clinic : Alternate Wednesday afternoons.

TODDLERS' CLINICS As required.

SUN-RAY

Waterloo Road Clinic : Monday and Thursday mornings.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

Wellington House

Clinic : Monday.

RELAXATION CLINICS

Waterloo Road Clinic : Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.

IMMUNISATION

Waterloo Road Clinic : Alternate Mondays.

Cowpen Road Clinic : Combined with Child Welfare Session.

New Delaval Clinic : Combined with Child Welfare Session.

Special sessions for diphtheria immunisation are carried out at school and Wellington House School Clinic periodically.

THE AMBULANCE SERVICE

Blyth has one main ambulance depot and it is linked with Bedlington and Ashington by radio so that adequate cover is maintained.

During 1958 :

19,190 patients were carried.
 5,080 relatives were carried.
 24,270 persons were carried.
 3,560 journeys were made.
 1,402 emergencies answered.
 92,164 miles were travelled.

THE DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

This is supervised from the Area Office by a Home Help Organiser who visits cases regularly, especially new cases, so that first-hand knowledge of each case is available.

In Bedlington and Blyth during 1958, 533 cases were served by 112 Home Helps.

LABORATORY SPECIMENS, 1958

BACTERIOLOGICAL

(The Public Health Laboratory Service, General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne).

A. PATHOLOGICAL

(1) *Throat and Nose swabs.*

Corynebacterium	Diphtheria	Present	...	Nil	
	„	Not found	...	2	2
Haemolytic Streptococci		Present	...	Nil	
		Not found	...	3	3
Film : Fusiform bacilli		Present	...	2	2
Coagulase Positive Staphylococci		Not Isolated		3	3

(2) *Sputum.*

B. Tuberculosis	Present	...	15	15
-----------------	---------	-----	----	----

(3) *Faeces.*

Sh. Sonnei	Isolated	...	3	
No Pathogens	Isolated	...	20	23

B. WATER, MILK, ETC.

(1) *Water Samples.*

(a) Chemical	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
(b) Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	...	62

(2) *Milk Samples.*

(a) For Pasteurised Milk :

(1) Methylene Blue Test	...	...	...	...	...	12
(2) Phosphatase Test	...	...	...	...	...	12
(3) Turbidity Test	...	...	...	...	...	1

(3) *Sterility of Milk Bottles.*

(a) Satisfactory.	(b) Fairly Satisfactory.	(c) Unsatisfactory.	
61	9	8	78

(4) *Ice Cream.*

(a) Bacteriological—Methylene Blue	35
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ANNUAL REPORT, 1958

Part II—Environmental Hygiene

Housing

The work of the Health Department has again been principally directed to housing matters with respect to clearance, demolition and closure of unfit houses ; inspections and administrative work necessitated by the Rent Act, 1957 ; work in connection with Improvement Grants and applications under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Acts ; surveys and reports as to proposed purchase of houses ; preparation of specifications ; interviews and inspections with respect to undertakings to repair ; and miscellaneous work arising out of complaints as to unsatisfactory housing conditions.

A total of 1,597 inspections and interviews were made during the year and these, together with all the relevant administrative work, occupied the major part of the duties.

In the following pages are given details of these duties.

During the year the undermentioned houses were demolished or closed and persons displaced :—

	Houses Demolished	Displacements	
		Persons	Families
Clearance Areas	2	184	70
Individual Unfit Houses, Sec. 11, Housing Act, 1936	3	26	10
	Houses Closed		
Secs. 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957	5	7	3
Parts of buildings closed, Sec. 18, Housing Act, 1957	18	44	18
	28	261	101

The total figures since 1945 are :—

YEAR	CLEARANCE AREAS		DEMOLITION ORDERS		CLOSING ORDERS		TOTAL	
	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced
1945/50	399	1,875	55	432	1	4	455	2,311
1951	139	339	2	4	10	19	151	362
1952	67	220	76	298	8	36	151	554
1953	112	362	64	194	27	120	203	676
1954	—	—	33	103	37	131	70	234
1955	—	—	22	82	21	81	43	163
1956	109	—	4	22	23	119	136	141
1957	31	3	15	74	15	59	61	136
1958	2	184	3	26	23	51	28	261
	859	2,983	274	1,235	165	620	1,298	4,838

Housing Act, 1936—Slum Clearance

At the end of the year the following persons had been rehoused from the Clearance Orders confirmed on the 4th April and 15th August, 1957, respectively :—

						<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
Seaton Sluice	...	...	...	...	...	81	33
Harper and Marlow Streets	...	...	...	...	...	75	30

In addition two families comprising five persons had been rehoused in houses built by the Seaton Delaval Estate under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938, and one family comprising five persons in a farm cottage.

Housing Act, 1957—Individual Unfit Houses

During the year the following Orders became operative :—

				<i>Houses</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
(Sec. 17) Demolition	...	...	...	16	57	17
(Sec. 17) Closing in lieu of Demolition	...	...	...	23	81	27
(Sec. 18) Closing (parts of buildings)	...	...	...	17	54	18
				<u>56</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>62</u>

Representations.—During the year 23 houses were represented as being unfit for human habitation.

Undertakings.—The undermentioned dwellings were the subject of undertakings to repair and applications for revocation of Orders after renovation :—

<i>Repair</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
51 Thompson Street ...	1	Completed.
14 Wensleydale Terrace ...	1	In progress.
<i>Revocation</i>		
35 Disraeli Street ...	1	Completed. Order revoked.
17 Back Turner Street ...	1	Completed. Order revoked.
360, 362, 364 and 366 Cowpen Road ...	4	Completed. Four flats converted to two self-contained houses.
80 Percy Street ...	1	Completed. Order revoked.
5 Back Harper Street ...	1	Completed. Two flats converted to one self-contained house.
19 Stanley Street ...	1	In progress.
21 Stanley Street ...	1	In progress.
76/78 Coomassie Road ...	2	In progress.
21 Percy Street ...	1	Undertaking accepted.

Change of Use.—The undermentioned dwellinghouse, subject of a Closing Order, was approved for change of use as under :—

24 Stanley Street	...	1	Reconstruction of property as dwelling-house and office premises. Order revoked.
-------------------	-----	---	--

Change of Use. The undermentioned dwelling Not subject of an Order under the Housing Acts, was approved for change of use as under :—

1 Grantham Street	...	1	Additional facilities for existing shop premises.
-------------------	-----	---	---

Crofton Area and Coomassie Road Housing Scheme

In accordance with the instructions of the Council, progress was made in the submission of representations in respect of properties in Crofton Street, and at the end of the year most of the tenanted properties were the subject of operative Closing and Demolition Orders.

In all, some 34 Orders had been made, with two pending, leaving the following dwellinghouses and other buildings to be dealt with, these being confined within the boundaries of Crofton Street.

<i>Self-contained</i>		<i>Flats</i>		<i>Other Buildings</i>
<i>Owner-occ.</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>	<i>Owner-occ.</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>	
6	1	3	6	Vacant Shop. Occupied Shop.

In continuation of this action the Borough Engineer was instructed to prepare a development plan for the area.

Slum Clearance—Five Year Programme

In April, 1958, a progress report was submitted to the Council on the slum clearance programme approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in 1955, showing that out of the original total of 535 houses, a total of 417 houses had been dealt with, leaving an outstanding balance of 118.

This figure was reviewed, certain dwellings being excluded as a result of renovation, owner-occupation or revised opinion based upon detailed inspection ; an amended slum clearance programme was adopted, totalling 108 dwellings, and at the end of the year the position was as follows :—

Dwellings

<i>Clearance Areas (Operative)</i>							
Cowpen Colliery and Cowpen Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	139
<i>Clearance Areas (Confirmed 1957)</i>							
Seaton Sluice ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Harper and Marlow Streets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
<i>Demolition Orders</i>							
Sec. 11, H.A. 1936	1955	1956	1957	1958			
	12	14	12	—	...		38
<i>Closing Orders</i>							
Sec. 12, H.A. 1936	10	10	23	—	...		43
<i>Closing Orders</i>							
Local Govt. (M.P.) Act	20	14	13	—	...		47
<i>Demolition Orders</i>							
Sec. 17, H.A. 1957	—	—	1	16	...		17
<i>Closing Orders</i>							
Sec. 17, H.A. 1957	—	—	—	23	...		23
<i>Closing Orders</i>							
Sec. 18, H.A. 1957	—	—	4	17	...		21
<i>Undertakings to Repair</i>							
	—	—	3	1	...		4
<i>Squatters' Hutments</i>							
	—	—	7	4	...		11
<i>Exclusions from Programme</i>							
	—	—	37	10			47
							457
Outstanding Balance of five year programme ...							78

Housing Requirements.—At the end of the year there were 57 dwellings with 62 families awaiting rehousing from operative Orders, of whom 19 families had been interviewed and approved for rehousing by the Estates Committee.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

Dwellings to Replace Slums.—The Housing Subsidies Act, 1956, subsequently consolidated by the above Act, requires the preparation of Certificates of Displacement in respect of families displaced as a result of action taken in dealing with insanitary houses, and the necessary Certificates have been prepared and submitted to the Borough Treasurer as under :—

Year	Individual Unfit Houses			Clearance Orders			Totals		
	No.	Persons	Families	No.	Persons	Families	No.	Persons	Families
1955	6	21	6	—	—	—	6	21	6
1956	31	132	34	—	—	—	31	132	34
1957	35	128	36	4	5	4	39	133	40
1958	32	86	33	56	152	62	88	238	95
	104	367	109	60	157	66	164	524	175

Housing Acts 1949 to 1957—Improvement Grants

The position with regard to these is shown below and in the schedule on page 30.

COMPLETED 1958

<i>Address</i>				<i>Owner-Occupied</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>
61 Delaval Terrace, Blyth	...	...	...	—	1
1, 2 and 3 Gloucester Lodge Farm Cottages	...	...	...	—	3
3 Astley Villas, Seaton Sluice	...	...	...	—	1
143 Bowes Street, Blyth	...	...	...	—	1
113 Bowes Street, Blyth	...	...	...	—	1
17 Edward Street, Blyth	...	...	...	1	—
				<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>

IN PROGRESS

Isabella Colliery.—Steady progress was made during the year with the modernisation of the 180 dwellings, and at the end of the year the contract work of sewerage, electrification, provision of bathrooms, hot and cold water supply and approved type fireplaces was virtually completed at New, East, Middle and West Rows and similar work was in progress at Double Row. Internal repairs had also been completed at New and East Rows and a start made on Middle Row.

It is expected that the whole of the modernisation programme will be completed during 1959.

Owing to the structural condition of one house, 40 West Row, the National Coal Board rehoused the occupiers and the property was demolished.

Seaton Delaval Hall Gardens.—The modernisation of these houses was completed during 1958 with the exception of the provision of the electric supply.

Harbord Terrace, Seaton Sluice.—The modernisation of these eight dwellings was well advanced at the end of the year and it is expected that they will be completed early in 1959.

PENDING

Forster Memorial Homes, Cowpen Colliery.—An application was received on behalf of the Northumberland Aged Mineworkers' Homes Association for a grant in respect of the modernisation of eight cottages, and preliminary details were well advanced at the end of the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1949 to 1957

Improvement Grants

Year	Properties Surveyed	APPLICATIONS			Cost		NOT PROCEEDING AFTER APPROVAL		COMPLETED		IN PROGRESS
		Properties	Refused	Approved	Estimate £	Approved £	Grant £	No.	Grants £	No.	
1954	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	54	24	5	19	8,695	5,602	2,796	1	157	1	120
1956	25	9	—	9	3,743	2,771	1,384	7	1,286	8	1,126
1957	52	186	—	186	76,577	61,198	30,598	5	882	1	76
1958	17	14	1	13	9,146	7,969	3,932	3	415	8	1,342
	148	243	6	227	98,161	77,540	38,710	16	2,740	28	2,684
											192

Railway Cottages, Bebside and South Newsham.—Approval in principle was received from the British Transport Commission to the modernisation of their properties in the Borough during 1959.

Single Row, South Newsham.—The four dwellings comprising this block were surveyed and details forwarded to the National Coal Board with a view to prospective modernisation.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938

COMPLETED

Hartley West Farm, Seaton Sluice.—The two houses to be erected for members of the agricultural population (See page 29, Annual Report, 1957) were completed during the year.

IN PROGRESS

Seaton Red House Farm, Seaton Delaval.—On the 27th May, 1958, application was received from the Seaton Delaval Estate for assistance under Section 3 of the Act in respect of two further houses to be erected for members of the Agricultural population at the above farm, at an estimated cost of £1,750 per dwelling.

Approval was given by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 1st July, 1958, to the provision of the houses on terms similar to those for Hartley West Farm. Construction of these cottages was well advanced at the end of the year.

PENDING

High and Low Horton Farms.—An intimation was received from the Seaton Delaval Estate of Lord Hastings' intention to erect two farm-workers' cottages at High Horton Farm and four farm-workers' cottages at Low Horton Farm, together with a single cottage at Seaton Lodge Farm during 1959, subject to approval of applications for grant aid.

Acquisition of Houses

In continuation of the Council's policy of purchasing owner-occupied properties where the number of occupiers is in excess of or considerably less than the permitted

number and the later extension of this policy to include all properties offered for sale to the Council, action was taken as set out in the schedule below :—

<i>Address</i>				
43/43½ Wright Street	...	...	To be acquired.	
2 Rosamund Place	...	...	Property unsuitable.	No action.
4 Rosamund Place	...	...	do.	do.
42 Park Road	...	...	do.	do.
414 Plessey Road	...	...	do.	do.
75 Newcastle Road	...	...	Referred to District Valuer.	
39 Sidney Street	...	...	Property unsuitable.	No action.
19 Winship Street	...	...	do.	do.
6 Warwick Street	...	...	do.	do.
47 Woodbine Terrace	...	...	To be acquired.	
38 Lynn Street	...	...	do.	
100 Stanley Street	...	...	Referred to District Valuer.	
102 Stanley Street	...	...	do.	
74 Stanley Street	...	...	do.	
757 Plessey Road	...	...	To be acquired.	
759 Plessey Road	...	...	do.	
60 Robert Street	...	...	Property unsuitable.	No action.
62 Robert Street	...	...	do.	do.
50 Percy Street	...	...	do.	do.
44 High Street	...	...	do.	do.
46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 61, 63 Nixon Terrace	...	...	Referred to District Valuer.	
9 Marine View, Seaton Sluice	...	...	Owner withdrew offer to sell.	
10 Marine View, Seaton Sluice	...	...	do.	
136 Disraeli Street	...	...	do.	
138 Disraeli Street	...	...	Property unsuitable.	No action.
			do.	do.

It is perhaps too early to offer criticism of the scheme as a whole, but it appears to me that the proposal to purchase properties scattered haphazardly over all parts of the Borough has little to commend it.

Apart from the extensive work for all departments entailed in the preparation of detailed inspections, plans, estimates, loans and conveyances, with the prospect that the negotiations may break down at any stage, *e.g.*, the Nixon Terrace and Marine View properties where the owner withdrew her offer to sell, it is often necessary to have regard to the condition of adjacent properties which must also be inspected and even where these are considered structurally satisfactory the long term view must be taken that whilst the Council will no doubt improve and maintain the individual property purchased, they are still dependent for a term of possibly thirty years on the surrounding properties being also satisfactorily maintained.

As an alternative I should like to put forward the following suggestions :—

- (1) That the Council only purchase individual houses where the occupier will definitely be provided with alternative

accommodation by reason of under-occupation or overcrowding, or where the property is already vacant, *e.g.*, as a result of a Closing Order.

- (2) That essential repairs AND improvements be carried out after vacation *and the property be then sold* ; or,
- (3) That essential repairs ONLY be done, *and the property then sold*, leaving the future purchaser to carry out such improvements as they wish, possibly with the assistance of an Improvement Grant.
- (4) That in order to assist would-be purchasers, the Council consider making advances for this purpose in accordance with the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act.

If this policy could be adopted for a trial period, it would continue the good work of the Council in ensuring the full occupation of under-occupied structurally sound houses and in rehabilitating the individual sub-standard house in an otherwise good residential area. Should the scheme not work out on the lines suggested, the Council would then only be in the identical position as at present in being the owner of several individual properties.

Rent Act, 1957

The following table shows the action taken by the Department since the inception of the Act.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

					1957	1958	Totals
1.	Application by tenants	...	...	...	43	46	89
2.	Decision not to issue Certificate	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Decision to issue :—						
	(a) some of the defects	...	...	...	23	28	51
	(b) all defects	...	...	...	16	21	37
4.	Undertakings by Landlords :—						
	(a) accepted	...	...	...	8	25	33
	(b) refused	...	...	...	2	3	5
5.	Certificates issued	...	...	...	24	28	52
6.	Applications for Cancellation	...	...	...	2	10	12
7.	Objections by Tenants	...	...	...	Nil	4	4
8.	Cancellations Refused	...	...	...	Nil	2	2
9.	Certificates Cancelled	...	...	...	1	12	13

CERTIFICATES AS TO REMEDYING OF DEFECTS

10. Applications by Tenants for Certificate of Non-Compliance with Undertaking :—									
Issued	(a)	Whole	...	...	...	...	Nil	14	14
	(b)	Part	...	...	...	...	Nil	8	8
11. Applications by Landlords for Certificate of Compliance with Undertaking :—									
	(a)	Issued	...	...	...	...	Nil	7	7
	(b)	Refused	...	...	...	...	Nil	1	1

For the purposes of the Act a total of 387 inspections were made and interviews were held with owners and tenants. This work is in addition to the considerable administrative detail required in the preparation and service of notices on tenants, owners and agents and incidental records in connection with the Act.

In view of the comparatively small number of applications received in relation to the number of privately owned houses in the Borough, it would appear that the majority of the tenants are agreeable to paying an increased rent provided the owner carries out reasonable repairs, but I have reason to believe that the rents of a considerable number of the older properties have not been increased, the owners adopting the attitude that it is better to collect the previous rent rather than to serve a Notice of Increase and be faced with heavy expenditure for a considerable list of disrepair.

One other point worthy of note is that there was an increase in the number of applications by tenants for certificates to certify that the Landlords had not carried out their undertakings, both in respect of undertakings accepted by the Council and by the tenants, and it would appear that certain Landlords are prepared to give an undertaking in order to receive the permitted increase for a further six months, leaving the tenant to make application at the expiry of that date for a certificate that the work has not been carried out and to recover the excess rent already paid.

In dealing with owners, agents and tenants it has been emphasised over and over again that it is of benefit to all concerned if they can come to some amicable arrangement as to the extent of the work required by the tenant and which the owner is prepared to carry out, rather than by appeal to the Council for formal certificates under the Act, leaving one of the parties aggrieved by the Council's decision.

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

Return for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

		Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
			Persons	Families
A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED :—				
(1)	Houses unfit for human habitation	3	184	70
(2)	Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3)	Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 (2), Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
Not in Clearance Areas :—				
(4)	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 17 (1), Housing Act, 1957	3	26	10
(5)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by M.O.H.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(6)	Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil	Nil	Nil
(7)	Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	Nil	Nil	Nil
B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED :—				
(8)	Under Sec. 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957	5	7	3
(9)	Under Secs. 17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
(10)	Parts of buildings closed under Sec. 18, Housing Act, 1957	18	44	18
C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED :—				
		By Owner	By Local Authority	
(11)	After informal action by Local Authority	64	Nil	
(12)	After formal notice under :			
(a)	P.H. Acts	76	Nil	
(b)	Secs. 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	10	Nil	
(13)	Under Sec. 24, Housing Act, 1957	11	Nil	
D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957) :—				
Position at end of Year		No. of houses (1)	No. of separate dwellings con- tained in Col. 1. (2)	
(14)	Retained for temporary accommodation	Nil	Nil	
(a)	under Sec. 48	Nil	Nil	
(b)	under Sec. 17 (2)	Nil	Nil	
(c)	under Sec. 46	Nil	Nil	
(15)	Licensed for temporary occupation under Secs. 34 or 53	Nil	Nil	
E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT :—				
(16)	Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year	Nil	Nil	

HOUSING REPORT

1958
*With State
 Assistance Unaided*

HOUSES COMPLETED IN 1958 :—

Permanent Traditional—Direct Labour	...	...	...	70	—
Permanent Traditional—Contractor	...	...	...	Nil	—
Any other Housing Authority	...	...	...	Nil	—
Permanent—pre-fabricated—Contractor	...	...	...	50	—

HOUSES IN PROGRESS, 31/12/58 :—

Permanent Traditional—Direct Labour	...	...	...	58	—
Permanent Traditional—Contractor	...	...	...	9	—
Any other Housing Authority	...	...	...	Nil	Nil

HOUSES COMPLETED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE :—

Traditional	2	51
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	----

HOUSES APPROVED BY MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND LOCAL

GOVERNMENT	44	—
------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----	---

HOUSES COMPLETED POST WAR BY COUNCIL UP TO 31/12/58 :—

Permanent Traditional	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,156	—
Permanent Non-Traditional	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	—
Pre-fabricated—Permanent B.I.S.F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	—
Pre-fabricated—Permanent Tarran	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	—
Pre-fabricated—Permanent Aluminium	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	—

HOUSES COMPLETED POST WAR BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE :—

Traditional	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	142
Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Part II—Sanitation and Buildings

REMOVAL OF REFUSE

Following on the report of the proposed municipal dustbin scheme submitted in 1957, the Borough Treasurer reported on the financial implications of the adoption of such a scheme and it was resolved that no action be taken.

FILTHY OR VERMINOUS PREMISES

A total of 483 premises were treated during the year for the eradication of insect pests, the principal source of complaint being cockroach infestation. The services of the Department are provided free to householders and consist primarily of spraying with an approved insecticide and, where necessary, gaseous fumigation. In other cases of infestation where it is necessary to remove door and window surrounds and skirting boards, a request is made to the owner for this to be done and the householder to strip the walls in order that the treatment may be as effective as possible.

Gooseberry, Red Spider or Clover Mite (Bryobia praetiosa)

During the past two or three years complaints have been received from residents in the new housing estates of infestation by numerous minute insects in the vicinity of door and window openings and on adjacent furnishings, and repeated efforts have been made to control these infestations. In the Spring of 1958 further complaints were received, and specimens of the mite were forwarded to the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for identification and advice as to the most effective means of treatment, which was readily given.

A brief history reveals that the mites live on bark and vegetation but that with the growth of new estates the natural habitat has been disturbed and the nearest building serves as suitable moulting or egg laying site, and, during the autumn and winter, a suitable place for hibernation. With the return of the warmer weather in the spring, the insects begin to migrate in search of food and it is then that the householder sees the colonies of insects, particularly on windows, frames, cills and external brickwork.

As a result of the advice given by the Ministry, suitable preventive measures were taken with apparent success, but the coming year will show whether the measures taken have proved effective.

Household effects.—During the year a total of 572 articles of furniture, bedding and household effects were collected by the Cleansing Department at the request of the Health Department and destroyed. This service, which is provided free of charge to the public, is indeed preferable to the disposal of unwanted articles on any handy vacant site, a practice which is still all too common.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Approval in principle was given by the Council to the erection of new conveniences as under :—

	<i>Estimated Cost £</i>
(i) Union Street	4,684
(ii) Cowpen Road (including public shelter)	1,770
(iii) Plessey Road, Newsham (including public shelter)	1,770

and it is anticipated that construction will commence during 1959.

The question of additional full-time labour for cleansing of the conveniences was reviewed and it was recommended that consideration be given to this when the Rate Estimates are presented. In the interim, special attention was paid by periodic visits by the Public Health Inspectors, and the Borough Engineer carried out such additional re-decoration and cleansing as requested.

Part III—Nuisances

For many years attention has been more and more directed to special subjects such as housing and food hygiene, but it must not be forgotten that one of the primary duties of the Health Department is to ensure that the day-to-day problems affecting the general welfare

of the community are dealt with as rapidly and efficiently as possible. In this connection some 1,884 inspections and interviews were made in connection with general nuisances which ranged from choked drains, offensive accumulations, choked ditches, housing repairs, noises, derelict properties, offensive odours, flooding of gardens, overhanging trees, sanitary accommodation in schools, etc.

Items of special interest during the year included the survey and treatment for rodent and insect infestation of the North Farm Allotments, and a circular letter was sent to each occupier of the land and buildings with a request for a general clean-up.

New forms of nuisances arising from industrial noise were also investigated in connection with Messrs. Wright's Timber Yard, due to the provision of a new sawdust extraction plant, where it was found that owing to the provision of a more up-to-date plant consisting of dust extractors, grinding mill and cyclones, a high-pitched noise was emitted during plant operation. Great difficulty was found in reducing the noise, but improvement was effected by the construction of ventilated louvres to direct the sound downwards and the insulation as far as possible of the equipment by the construction of a sound insulated cover over the cyclones.

Similar trouble was experienced in connection with the refrigeration plant at a licensed club, and in this case the removal of the offending compressor and the provision of water-cooled equipment proved effective.

By the very nature of these diverse duties it can never be said that the work of a Public Health Inspector is dull and uninteresting, and this in itself should be a stimulus to new entrants to Local Government.

Vacant Sites.—Apart from continuous inspections and efforts to secure the clearance of rubbish deposited on vacant sites in the Borough, a detailed survey was made of all such sites during the year, and the problem was referred to the Health Committee who recommended that the condition of the sites be referred to the County Planning Officer for action under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

As a result of this, representatives of the County Planning Officer's Department made a photographic survey of the unsightly sites, and the Clerk of the County Council subsequently asked if the Council would be prepared to accept an authorisation from the County Council to take action under Section 33 of the Act.

It was, however, resolved that the Council was of the opinion that the enforcement of the provisions of Section 33 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, should remain with the County Council.

Colliery Spoilbanks.—There was no marked change in the condition of the spoilbanks from that set out in the report of 1957.

Part IV—Water Supply

The water supply to the Borough is obtained from three sources and the total amount consumed during the year was

<i>Source of Supply</i>	<i>Amount, Gallons</i>
Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. ..	456,000,000
Tynemouth Water Co., via Seaton Valley U.D.C.	7,300,000
Tynemouth Water Co., direct	780,000
National Coal Board (Hepscott)	50,000,000
Total ..	<u>514,080,000</u>

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Only one of the fifty domestic supply samples taken during the year proved suspicious, the remainder being all highly satisfactory. In the case of the suspicious sample taken from the open service reservoir at Bebside, a check sample taken within a few days, following additional cleansing, proved satisfactory.

Twelve samples of sea water from four points between the South Harbour and Seaton Sluice were submitted for examination, and all revealed faecal contamination. It should be pointed out, however, that similar samples

obtained from any part of the coast line would most probably reveal similar contamination, and the position will only be relieved when untreated sewage has ceased to be discharged into rivers and the sea.

Details of these samples are given on page 58.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

The analysis of the samples of the domestic water supply submitted for chemical examination are set out on page 58, and the reports of the Public Analysts state that they are of very satisfactory organic purity and free from deposit, odour or taste and that the water is suitable for a public supply.

Additional water samples were submitted as a result of complaints of flooding of cellars and sub-floors and corrosion of mains, with a view to tracing the sources of pollution.

In connection with the corrosion of new water mains, the Borough Engineer has kindly provided me with the following information which should prove of special interest to the Council :—

“ Water Main—Weardale Avenue : Following a series of burst watermains in the Weardale Avenue area of the Cowpen Estate, it was suspected by the Borough Engineer that aggressive ground conditions might be attacking the 4" diameter cast-iron water main which had been laid for about three years.

“ A sample of the ground water was submitted to the Public Analyst, which proved to contain sulphates. The electric resistivity of the soil was measured and found to favour excessive corrosion over a length of about 400 yards.

“ This type of corrosion can be prevented by the installation of cathodic protection, and a scheme has been prepared by the Borough Engineer for such an installation at a relatively minor cost.”

Part V—Prevention, Treatment and Notification of Infectious Disease

The work of the Public Health Inspectors was limited to the investigation of pulmonary tuberculosis cases, of which there were only fourteen cases notified.

It is pleasing to report that there were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

Part VI—Mortuaries and Post-Mortem Rooms

The Mortuary was used during the year on 36 occasions, details being :—

<i>Authority</i>	<i>Bodies</i>	<i>Post-mortems</i>
Borough of Blyth	30	19
Bedlington Urban District Council	5	3
River Blyth Port Health Authority	1	—

Mr. Wade, the Rodent Officer, also acts as Mortuary Attendant and assists the pathologist during post-mortems.

Part XI—Tents, Vans and Sheds

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Unofficial parking of residential caravans continued throughout the year on various sites in the Borough, principally at the North Farm; on the Pottery Field, South Newsham and sporadic parking in isolated instances on various unauthorised sites. At frequent intervals these sites were inspected and details of the unauthorised occupation were forwarded to the County Planning Officer for appropriate action under the Town and Country Planning Act.

Pending the investigations by the Control of Development Sub-Committee into the establishment of permanent accommodation for residential caravans within the Borough, no official action was taken to secure the clearance of the sites in question.

NEW APPLICATIONS

Bebside Inn.—Planning application was made during the year from the Agents of Mr. B. L. Oliver to the provision of a site for twenty caravans at the rear of the “Bebside Inn,” Bebside, but the County Planning Authority decided to refuse permission on the following grounds :—

- (1) It is the policy of the Northumberland County Council to oppose small sporadic pockets of development of this nature.
- (2) The land was shown uncoloured on the Blyth Town Map, thereby indicating that it should remain substantially in its existing use.
- (3) The site was too small to accommodate the number of caravans proposed.
- (4) The access road did not provide good visibility and might give rise to dangerous road traffic conditions.

The Council decided not to issue the decision of the Local Planning Authority pending the submission by the County Planning Officer of proposals for a permanent caravan site.

Gloucester Lodge.—The application of the Council for planning permission to establish a holiday caravan site near Gloucester Lodge was refused by the Local Planning Authority and an appeal was lodged with the Minister of Housing and Local Government against this decision.

A Local Inquiry was held on the 16th October, 1958, but the Minister decided to dismiss the Appeal.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Most of the factory premises in the Borough were visited once during the year by the Student Inspector, who reported little cause for complaint.

Routine inspection of shops is carried out by the Shops Inspector, and contraventions in respect of lighting, ventilation, sanitary accommodation are referred to the Health Department.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Details of the work of the Rodent Officer are shown on the tables on pages 50/51.

Regular servicing and supervision is given to all Council properties, agricultural holdings, food and other business premises, and in addition constant watch is maintained over refuse tips and a twice yearly sewer treatment carried out.

Arrangements were made with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the loan of an illuminated display dealing with rodent control, and this was exhibited during January in the Gas Showrooms, Bridge Street, through the courtesy of the Northern Gas Board.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Four licences were issued during the year. In all cases the requirements of the Act were being observed and the conditions under which the animals were being kept were satisfactory.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no registered or licensed premises in the Borough, only two traders using filling materials for reconditioning purposes.

In both cases the materials used satisfy the British Standards Institution Mark Scheme.

THE CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

On the 1st June, 1958, the remaining provisions of the Clean Air Act came into operation, being Sections 1 and 2, which, with certain exceptions, prohibit the emission of dark smoke from chimneys ; Sections 5 to 9, which regulate the discharge of grit and dust from furnaces ; Section 16, which provides new powers for dealing with smoke nuisances ; and Sections 19 and 20, which prohibit dark smoke from railway engines and ships respectively.

In addition the Minister issued The Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958, setting out the periods during which "dark smoke" and "black smoke" could be left out of account for the purposes of Section 1 of the Act. Comparable regulations were also issued in respect of vessels.

Smoke Control Areas.—No proposals were considered during the year for the formation of smoke control areas.

Building Byelaws.—Model Byelaws for smoke prevention in new buildings were made under Section 61 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, and came into operation on the 1st August, 1958. The effect of these is to ensure that there shall be provided in new buildings only such appliances for heating and cooking as are suitably designed for burning gas, electricity, coke or anthracite.

Prior Approval.—Application was received on behalf of the Blyth Dry Docks and Shipbuilding Company Limited for the installation of a new wood waste extraction plant and incinerator, and after consultation with the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service, formal approval under Section 3 of the Act (installation of a furnace) and Section 6 (grit and dust arresting plant) was issued.

Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution.—Regular monthly readings of sulphur dioxide are obtained from the five lead peroxide gauges set up in the Borough, and the reciprocal arrangements continue with the Central Electricity Authority for the exchange of deposit gauge readings, as set out on Page 54 of the Annual Report for 1957. I am also indebted to H. Davies Jones, B.A., LL.B., Captain, Wellesley Nautical School, for the provision of weather data.

It is not possible at this early stage to indicate any significant pattern or source of pollution, as temperature, humidity, wind direction, rainfall and turbulence all have a variable effect on the readings, but the statistics for the winter season ending March and for the summer season ending September, 1958, give the following indications:—

DEPOSIT GAUGES

Winter

Highest Monthly Reading ...	Fire Station, Union St., December, 1957 ...	39.11
Lowest Monthly Reading ...	Bebside County Secondary School, February, 1958 ...	12.23
Seasonal Average	All gauges	20.80

Summer

Highest Monthly Reading ...	Fire Station, Union St., June, 1958 ...	34.09
Lowest Monthly Reading ...	Bebside County Secondary School, September, 1958 ...	8.68
Seasonal Average	All gauges	15.35

Figures given as tons per square mile.

LEAD PEROXIDE GAUGES

Winter

Highest Monthly Reading ...	Morpeth Road County Primary School,	March, 1958 ...	2.12
Lowest Monthly Reading ...	Seaton Delaval Hall, February, 1958 ...		0.48
Seasonal Average	All gauges		1.41

Summer

Highest Monthly Reading ...	Morpeth Road County Primary School,	April, 1958 ...	1.40
Lowest Monthly Reading ...	Seaton Delaval Hall, June, 1958 ...		0.31
	New Delaval County Secondary School,	August, 1958 ...	0.31
Seasonal Average	All gauges		0.83

Figures expressed as milligrams per 100 sq. c.m. per day.

Tables giving the monthly readings of the Lead Peroxide and Deposit Gauges are set out on pages 52, 53, 54 and 55.

Inspection of Plant.—It has not yet been found possible to carry out a detailed survey of all furnaces and plant in the Borough, but it is hoped that this will be done during 1959.

GENERAL SERVICES

The following incidental services were carried out during the year :—

Number of houses treated for insect pests	483
Number of houses disinfected after infectious disease	2
Number of houses disinfected by request	4
Number of items of bedding, furniture and clothing destroyed by request	572
Number of dogs humanely destroyed	101
Number of cats humanely destroyed	2
Obstructed drains cleared	87

Animal Destruction.—The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals reported that the lethal chamber previously provided by them was now considered by the British Veterinary Society to cause severe suffering in electrocuted dogs in that the machine passed current through the heart but not through the head and this immediately paralysed the dog, giving the appearance of unconsciousness, but that no marked change in the electrical rhythms of the brain could be detected for 12 seconds, during which period the animal must be presumed to have been conscious and to have suffered great pain from the passage of the current.

The use of the Electrothanator was therefore discontinued until a conversion unit had been fitted, the result of which meant that only dogs could be humanely destroyed, the cat section of the cabinet being removed.

It was further requested that in future cats be destroyed by means of a chloroform chamber, but the Council recommended that the modified lethal chamber be used only for the destruction of dogs and that the destruction of cats be referred to the R.S.P.C.A. except for emergency cases.

Carcases of animals destroyed are collected by the Cleansing Department and are immediately buried on the Council's tips.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Form 572 (Revised)

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :

Premises. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Number of		
		Inspections. (3)	Written Notices. (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority ...	21	25	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	111	88	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' Premises)	2	—	—	—
Total ...	134	113	4	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	To H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...					
Overcrowding (S.2) ...					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)...					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)...					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...					
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	4	4			
(c) Not separate for Sexes...					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...					
Total ...	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil

Factories, 1958

	Mechanical Power.	No Mechanical Power.
Bakeries	14	—
Blacksmith	1	—
Boiler Scaling	1	—
Boot and Shoe Repairers	5	—
Cabinet Making	—	1
Car Spraying and Coach Work	4	—
Clothing Alterations	—	4
Clothing Repairs	—	1
Clothing Manufacturers	6	—
Coppersmiths	1	—
Cooked Fish Preparations	1	—
Cooked Meat Products and Sausage	11	1
Corn Grinders	1	—
Dairies	1	—
Dry Cleaners	2	—
Electrical Engineers	1	—
Electro Plating	1	—
Engineering	5	—
Foundry	2	—
Garage and Battery Charging	15	—
Gas Works	1	—
Ice-Cream Manufacturers... ..	6	—
Joinery, Stone-crushing, Est.	8	4
Marine Store and Timber	1	—
Plastics	1	—
Plumbers	1	1
Polishing	—	2
Potato Crisps	1	—
Printing	3	—
Radio and Electrical Repairs	—	4
Saddlery and Harness	—	1
Sculptor	1	—
Ship Building and Repairs	1	—
Sheet Metal and Welding	1	—
Sign Writing	—	1
Slaters and Tilers	—	1
Soft Drinks and Bottling	1	—
Spring Mattresses	1	—
Sugar Confectionery	1	—
Timber Impregnation	1	—
Timber Merchants	6	—
Transformer Stations	1	—
Tyre Retreading	1	—
Upholstery	2	—
	111	21

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

During 1958 the following treatments were carried out by the Rodent Officer.

	No.	Baits laid	Traps laid	Ozs. Polson bait taken	No. of Bodies		Est. Kill Rats	No. of Visits
					Rats	Mice		
Dwelling Houses	113	453	8	314	6	43	13	242
Food Shops	27	353	2	171	—	54	—	78
Other Shops	8	64	6	40	—	6	—	24
Farm Buildings, Etc. ...	13	292	—	871	95	44	322	50
Allotments, Gardens, Piggeries and Stables	30	173	4	645	71	3	226	99
Schools	6	232	—	72	3	13	15	19
Canteens and Cafes	4	90	—	30	—	8	—	8
B.R. Embankments	2	193	22 holes gassed	129	64	—	277	9
Bakery	1	10	—	4	—	1	—	3
Council Properties	14	509	—	323	88	22	361	49
Offices	2	22	2	10	—	—	1	6
Hotels and Public Houses ...	4	48	3	23	3	6	3	12
N.C.B. and Gas Co. Yards ...	3	98	—	119	5	—	50	14
Garages, Warehouses and Storage Sheds	6	207	—	214	5	41	36	19
Building Sites	2	44	—	79	6	—	39	9
Factories	5	146	—	45	5	8	32	21
Refuse Tips and Ditches ...	9	729	4 Horo Tubes 39 Holes gassed	334	82	—	407	38
Sewers	—	179	—	12	—	—	29	390 Manholes
Totals	249	3842	25 traps 61 holes gassed 4 Horo Tubes	3435	433	249	1811	700 Visits 390 Manholes

In addition to the above treatments the following surveys were carried out.

Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural Premises	Business Premises
60	30	97	437

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1959

Form PDP/R9

		Type of Property				Agricultural (5)
		Non-Agricultural				
		Local Author- ity (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (includ- ing business premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3) (4)	
I.	No. of properties in Local Authority's District... ..	31	10,656	1,341	12,028	32
II.	No. of properties inspected as a result of:—					
	(a) Notification	5	122	51	178	1
	(b) Survey under the Act ...	26	29	478	533	31
	(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) ...	64	2,996	896	3,956	Nil
III.	Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available) ...	61	165	927	1,153	97
IV.	No. of properties inspected (in Sec. II) which were found to be infested by:—					
	(a) Rats { Major	10	Nil	6	16	13
	{ Minor	5	25	17	47	4
	(b) Mice { Major	1	Nil	4	5	2
	{ Minor	6	94	52	152	Nil
V.	No. of infested properties (In Sec. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given in Sec. IV) ...	22	119	75*	216	10**
VI.	Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	32	124	87	243	20
VII.	No. of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act:—					
	(a) Treatment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(b) Structural Work (i.e., proofing) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
VIII.	No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
IX.	Legal Proceedings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
X.	No. of “Block” control schemes carried out	4	6	8	21	3

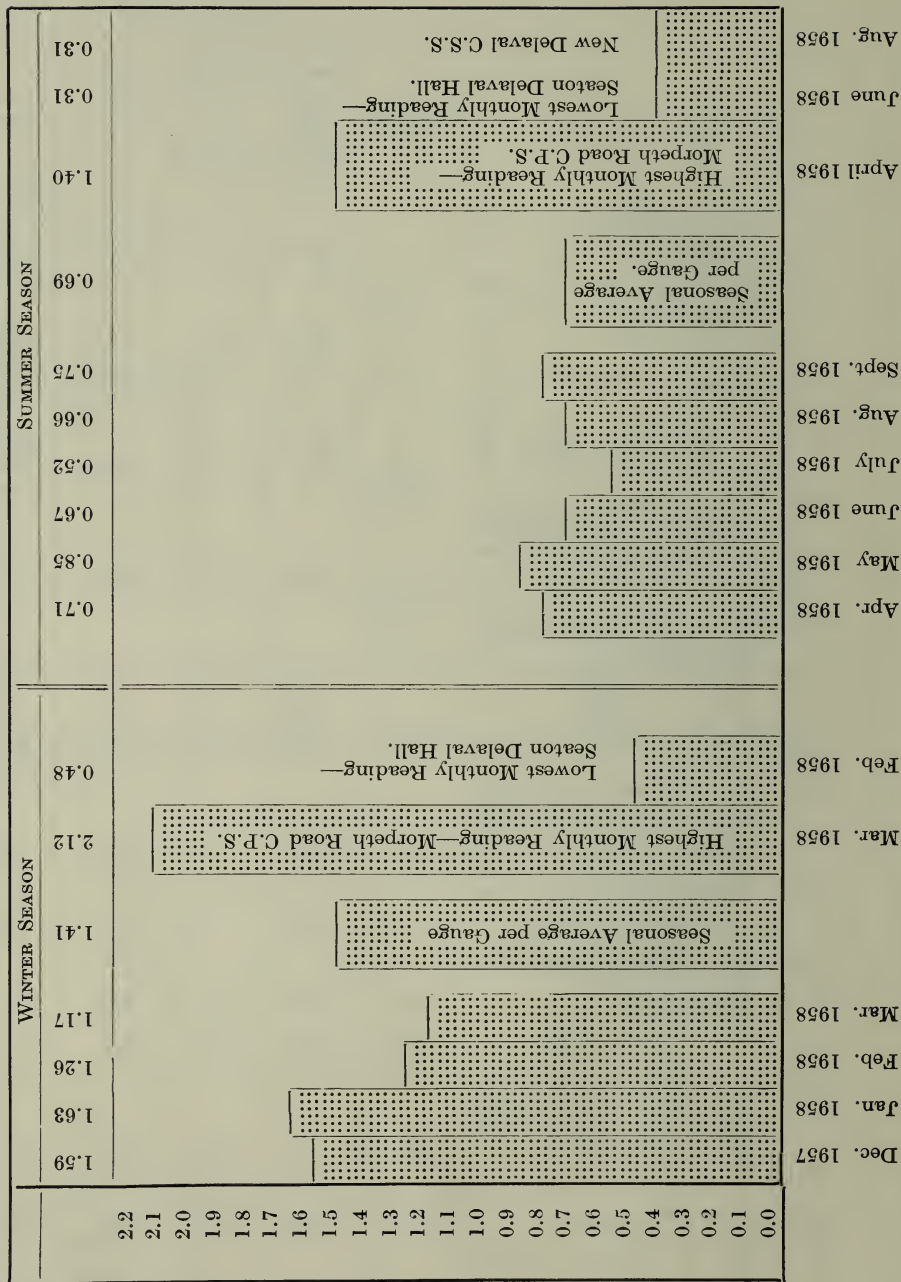
* Three Cinemas, One Shop treated by Servicing Company.

** Four Farms treated by Ag. Ex. Committee.
Five " " " Occupiers' Staff.

BOROUGH OF BLYTH — LEAD PEROXIDE GAUGES

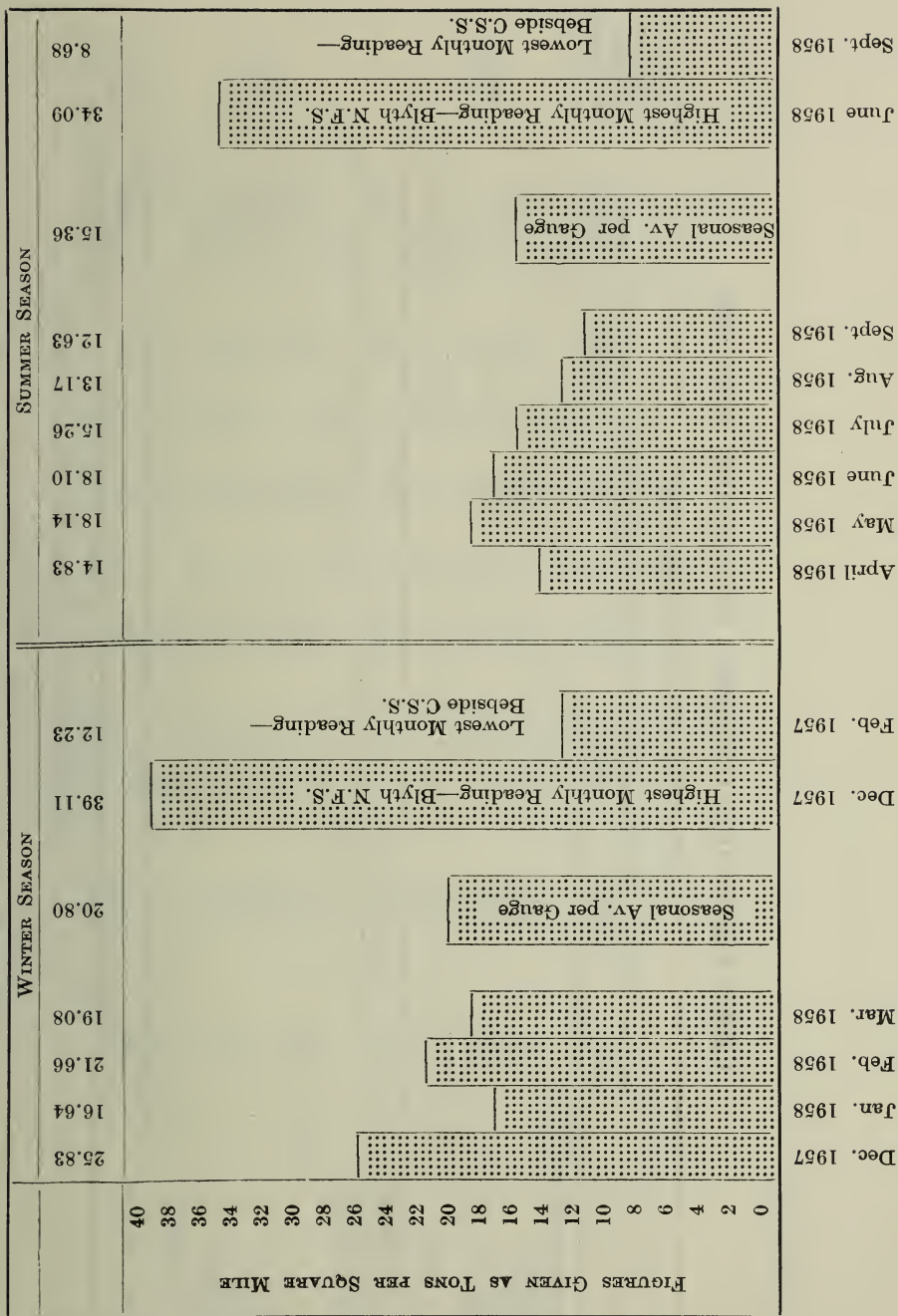
Milligrams per 100 sq. cm. per day

Statistics for the Period December, 1957 to September, 1958



BOROUGH OF BLYTH — CENTRAL ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY — DEPOSIT GAUGES TOTAL SOLID DEPOSIT

Statistics for the Period December, 1957 to September, 1958



LEAD PEROXIDE GAUGES—STATISTICS, 1957–1958

	Bebside C.S.S.	Morpeth Rd., C.P.S.	New Delaval C.S.S.	Ridley Park	Seaton Del. Hall	Total Deposit	Monthly Average	Monthly Average per Gauge	
WINTER SEASON :—									
December ...	1.97	1.36	1.34	1.68	1.59	7.94	1.59	<u>1.41</u>	
January ...	1.54	2.08	1.28	1.60	1.67	8.17	1.63		
February ...	1.40	1.96	1.00	1.47	0.48	6.31	1.26		
March ...	1.15	2.12	0.60	0.93	1.05	5.85	1.17		
Totals ...	6.06	7.52	4.22	5.68	4.79	28.27	5.65	<u>0.69</u>	
Monthly Average ...	1.51	1.88	1.05	1.42	1.20	7.07	1.41		
SUMMER SEASON :—									
April ...	0.84	1.40	0.65	0.76	0.89	3.54	0.71		
May ...	0.90	1.23	0.77	0.97	0.40	4.27	0.85		
June ...	0.72	1.16	0.68	0.49	0.31	3.36	0.67		
July ...	0.57	0.85	0.42	0.42	0.35	2.61	0.52		
August ...	0.94	0.99	0.31	0.68	0.40	3.32	0.66		
September ...	0.84	1.12	0.59	0.66	0.52	3.73	0.75	<u>0.69</u>	
Totals ...	4.81	6.75	3.42	3.98	2.87	20.83	4.16		
Monthly Average ...	0.80	1.12	0.57	0.66	0.48	3.47	0.69		

Figures expressed as milligrams per 100 sq. cm. per day.

C.E.A. DEPOSIT GAUGES—STATISTICS, 1957-1958 **Total Solid Deposit**

	Blyth N.F.S.	Bebside C.S.S.	Cowpen B.C.	Total Deposit	Monthly Average	Seasonal Average per Gauge
WINTER SEASON :—						
December	39.11	15.95	22.44	77.50	25.83	<u>20.80</u>
January	17.07	16.20	—	33.27	16.64	
February	28.99	12.23	23.75	64.97	21.66	
March	21.79	14.13	21.32	57.24	19.08	
Totals	106.96	58.51	67.51	232.98	83.21	
Monthly Average	26.74	14.63	22.50	58.25	20.80	
SUMMER SEASON :—						
April	18.96	10.91	14.63	44.50	14.83	<u>15.36</u>
May	25.94	11.91	16.58	54.43	18.14	
June	34.09	9.24	10.97	54.30	18.10	
July	23.92	8.94	12.92	45.78	15.26	
August	18.34	9.01	12.15	39.50	13.17	
September	20.23	8.68	8.98	37.89	12.63	
Totals	141.68	58.69	76.23	276.40	92.13	
Monthly Average	23.58	9.78	12.70	46.06	15.36	

Figures expressed as tons per square mile.

Public Health Department,
 " Dinsdale,"
 Marine Terrace,
 BLXTH.

November, 1958.

ANALYSIS OF WATER, 1958

Chemical

NAME OF SOURCE		Mixed Newcastle and Gateshead Supply Taken from domestic tap at 3 Cramlington Terrace, Blyth. Sample marked 3/CW/58	Tynemouth Supply Taken from service tap at the Fountain Head Cafe, Seaton Sluice, Blyth. Sample marked 6/CW/58	Mixed Newcastle and Hepscott Supply. Taken from Corporation Depot, Morpeth Road, Blyth. Sample marked 7/CW/58
<i>Chemical Results :</i>				
Total solids dried at 180°C.	...	200	135	295
Chlorine as chlorides	...	14.2	10.7	23
Free Ammonia	...	None	Trace	Trace
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	0.1	0.03	Trace
Nitrogen as nitrates	...	0.8	0.5	0.5
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 80°F)	...	1.4	5.0	0.6
Total hardness	...	137	101	216
Permanent hardness	...	41	47	None
Temporary hardness	...	96	54	216
Lead and Copper	...	None	None	None
Iron	...	Trace	0.2	0.2
Appearance and Colour	...	(Hazen degrees 10)	(Hazen degrees 80)	(Hazen degrees 5)
Smell and Taste	...	Ex. pale Yellow and Clear.	Pale orange Yellow and Clear	Ex. pale Yellow and Clear.
Miscroscopical examination of deposits	...	Satisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Satisfactory.
P.H. Value	...	7.2	7.0	7.4
		Parts per million	Parts per million	Parts per million

The above samples of water are of very satisfactory organic purity and free from deposit, odour or taste. The water is suitable for a Public Supply.

Samples marked "1/CW/58" and "2/CW/58" from the Northern Gas Board storage tank and flood water from Roxy Ballroom, Blyth.

	<i>Storage Tank</i>		<i>Ballroom</i>		<i>Result</i>
	...	Parts per million	101.0	Parts per million	
Chlorine as chlorides	...	16.0	238	" "	The flood water from the Roxy Ballroom is quite unlike that from the Northern Gas Board storage tank.
Alkalinity to Methyl Orange	...	104	7.4	" "	The high Chloride figure suggests that the former might be from a drain.
P.H. Value	...	7.8		" "	

Samples marked "4/CW/58" from sub-floor space at 3 Cramlington Terrace, Blyth, and "5/CW/58" from domestic tap at 3 Cramlington Terrace, Blyth.

	<i>Sub-floor</i>		<i>Tap</i>		<i>Result</i>
	...	Parts per million	7.1	Parts per million	
Chlorides	...	10.7	130	" "	From the analyses it is not possible to say definitely that the sub-floor water is from the Public Supply, but the indications are that it is so.
Alkalinity express as CaCO ₃	...	144	Trace	" "	It may, however, be rainwater and the condition should be noted again after a spell of dry weather, and a further sample sent.
Free Ammonia	...	Trace	7.2	" "	
P.H. Value	...	7.4		" "	

Samples marked "9/CW/58" from sub-floor water, penetrating wall (Blyth and District Social Club, Blyth) and "10/CW/58" water from standpipe—Newcastle and Gateshead Supply.

	<i>Sub-floor</i>		<i>Standpipe</i>		<i>Result</i>
	Parts per million	Parts per million	Parts per million	Parts per million	
Total hardness	...	218	150		Comparison of these two analyses show that the two samples are not similar in composition. Sample "9/CW/58" may possibly be from a faulty drain, in which case dosing nearby drains with fluoriscean might locate the source of leakage.
Permanent hardness	...	None	42	" "	
Temporary hardness...	...	218	108	" "	
Chlorine as chlorides	...	Trace	11	" "	
Free Ammonia	...	20	7	" "	
P.H. Value	...	6.0	6.2	" "	
	...			" "	

Sample marked "8/CW/58" sub-soil water taken from sump surrounding open trench.
Report and result of analysis was sent direct to the Borough Engineer, Blyth, by the Public Analyst.

All reports signed—W. GORDON CAREY.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 ANALYST'S REPORT—CHEMICAL

Samples marked "1/FD/58" and "2/FD/58" Mineral Water bottles (2) Sarsaparilla and Limeade—received 9/9/58.
The brown stain on the capping lip of the empty bottle is ferric oxide (rust) caused probably by the sealing of the varnish protective coating on the inside metal crown cap when being crimped on the bottle, and allowing direct action on metal.

This deposit, although unsightly, would not be harmful even if the contents were consumed direct from the bottle itself.

Signed—W. GORDON CAREY.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Water Sampling

The following water samples were taken during the year for analysis :

CHEMICAL

<i>Name of Source</i>	<i>Nature of Source</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>
(1) Newcastle and Gateshead Water.	From Storage Tank, Northern Gas Board, Blyth	1
(2) Flood water.	From Roxy Ballroom, Blyth ...	1
(3) Newcastle and Gateshead Water.	From tap at 3 Cramlington Terr. Blyth	2
(4) Sub-floor Water.	At 3 Cramlington Terrace, Blyth...	1
(5) Newcastle and Hepscott Water.	From Corporation Depot, Morpeth Road, Blyth ...	1
(6) Tynemouth Water.	From tap at Fountain Head Cafe, Seaton Sluice, Blyth ...	1
(7) Sub-soil Water.	From sump surrounding open trench	1
(8) Sub-soil Water.	At Blyth and District Social Club	1
(9) Newcastle and Gateshead Water.	From standpipe at Blyth and District Social Club	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
(1) Newcastle and Gateshead Water	13	13	—
(2) Hepscott Water before chlorination	12	12	—
(3) Mixed Hepscott and Newcastle Water after chlorination	13	12	1 suspicious
(4) Tynemouth Water	12	12	—
(5) Sea Water adjacent South Pier, Blyth ...	3	—	3
(6) „ „ Wellesley School outfall ...	3	—	3
(7) „ „ Jubilee Cafe outfall ...	3	—	3
(8) „ „ Car Park, Seaton Sluice... ..	3	—	3

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1955

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

From the viewpoint of food hygiene it is to be regretted that little attention was again given to the food premises in the Borough, due principally to the time devoted to housing matters, much of which involved considerable administrative work. There is, however, the satisfaction that no complaints were received as to the condition of food premises, and progressive structural alterations and improvements were self-evident during the year.

There is no doubt that the intensive inspections and the clean food campaigns of former years have had a marked effect on the hygienic standard, but it is to be hoped that this essential work can be resumed as quickly as possible.

FOOD PREMISES

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the following information is given regarding food premises in the Borough :—

Bakehouses	14	Preserved Food ..	12
Confectionery Shops ..	23	Ice Cream M'facturers	4
Bakery and		Food Manufacturers ..	4
Confectionery Shops	14	Food Warehouses ..	3
Butchers	24	Wet Fish	4
Fish Fryers	15	Canteens	15
General Dealers ..	77	Hotels	4
Grocery & Provisions	50	Dairies	4
Greengrocery	15	Off Licences	6
Licensed Premises ..	43	Restaurants & Snack	
Club Premises ..	14	Bars	11

a total of 356.

REGISTRATIONS

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Act are as follows :—

Bakehouses	14
Butchers	24
Cooked Meats	9
Fish Fryers	15
Ice Cream M'facturers	4
Ice Cream Retailers ..	97

There was one additional registration for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream.

The undermentioned premises ceased to be used for the purpose for which they were registered and have been removed from the register.

Fish Fryer 2

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The details of dairies registered, distributors of milk and licences under the Milk and Dairies (Special Designation) Regulations are as follows :—

Dairies	6
Distributors (in respect of 104 premises)	84
Licences—Sterilised	110
Pasteurised	31
Pasteurised (Supplementary)	Nil
Tuberculin Tested	5
Tuberculin Tested (Supplementary)	1

New registration of distributors amounted to 14 and removals from the register after ceasing to trade, 15.

Supply.—The milk supply to the Borough remains the same as before, the two principal suppliers of pasteurised milk being the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and Coast Creameries Ltd., together with a supply of sterilised milk from the Co-operative Society Ltd., and the Newcastle Model Milk Co. Ltd. As the Borough is a “ Prescribed Area ” by an Order made under the Regulations, only Designated Milks are retailed, all of which are either pasteurised or sterilised, only a very small quantity of raw Tuberculin Tested milk being sold.

Regular milk sampling for the efficiency of pasteurisation was continued as in previous years and there were no unsatisfactory methylene blue or phosphatase results.

Methylene Blue Test.—This test is used to measure the quality of the milk and is based on the fact that the increase of organisms in the milk causes decolourisation, or, in other words reduces the methylene blue. In the laboratory test a measured quantity of milk is used, to which is added a

measured quantity of methylene blue solution, the sample being then placed in a water bath the temperature of which is maintained between 37°C and 38°C. The time taken to completely decolourize the milk is carefully noted and the test is considered satisfactory in relation to pasteurised milk when it is not decolourized within thirty minutes.

Phosphatase Test.—This test is used to denote efficiency of pasteurisation and is based on the fact that raw milk contains an enzyme, phosphatase, which is destroyed by heating at not less than 145°F and not more than 150°F for thirty minutes, or maintained at a temperature of not less than 161°F for at least fifteen seconds. A standard solution is added to the milk producing a pale blue colour, which, if phosphatase is absent, does not exceed a certain value. This colour is measured against a Lovibond colour comparator and must not give a reading of more than 2.3 Lovibond blue units.

MILK BOTTLE STERILITY

After the efforts outlined on pages 37 and 38 of the Annual Report for 1957, to improve the standard of milk bottle sterility, there was an improvement during 1958, the figures reading: Satisfactory, 61; Fairly Satisfactory, 9; and Unsatisfactory, 8. Although this still gives an approximation of 10% unsatisfactory bottles, it must be emphasised that this is a provisional classification only, and of the bacterial counts shown as unsatisfactory, *i.e.*, over 2,000 colonies, the figures in this classification were lower than those for previous years.

The production of a sterile or readily sterilised, non-returnable container at an economic cost is a matter to which the dairy industry is devoting much research and it must be emphasised from the point of view of public health that the use of such containers would immediately obviate what is still all too common a sight to the public health inspector, the milk bottle and sometimes accumulations of bottles standing unwashed in the kitchen sink, in the larder, on the scullery floor, in the wash-house, beside the dustbin, in the garden, on the vacant site, or used for containing any fluid other than that for which it was originally intended.

Whilst the onus is on the dairyman to ensure that all vessels used for containing milk are, immediately before use, in a state of thorough cleanliness, the immediate rinsing after

emptying and prompt return of all empties to the roundsman would greatly assist the producer in providing a satisfactory milk supply in a perfectly sound and hygienic container.

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947-1952

There are four registered ice cream manufacturers in the Borough, one of whom produces a Cold Mix Ice-cream only. Of these four, only one manufacturer continues production throughout the year but dispenses with mobile retail sales during the winter. The three remaining manufacturers tend to produce at varying times during the summer period, dependent on demand and the vagaries of the weather, giving rise to difficulties in inspection of premises and equipment and collection of adequate samples at times suitable for transmission to the Public Health Laboratory, but it was found possible by allotting additional time to this service to increase the number of samples.

The results of these analyses are given below :—

Grade I		Grade II		Grade III		Grade IV		Total
17		12		4		2		35
Satisfactory Approx. 83%				Unsatisfactory Approx. 17%				

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS

Meat Inspection.—Slaughtering took place on 275 days during 1958, necessitating 489 visits to the Abattoir by the Inspectors.

Details of slaughtering, meat inspection and overtime are given in the tables on pages 65 and 66.

Hours of Slaughtering.—In order to obtain 100% meat inspection it was necessary to work overtime on 126 days out of 275 (46%), and in addition, slaughtering and inspection took place on fourteen Saturdays, nine Sundays and one Bank Holiday.

Animal Health.—There was a slight diminution in the number of animals slaughtered, principally due to a reduction in the number of sheep, but this was offset by an increase in the number of cattle slaughtered so that the “inspection units” based on the Ministry’s standard of one beast being equivalent to ten units, one calf or pig to three units and one sheep as two units resulted in a figure of 42,606 for 1958 against 42,851 for 1957.

The quality of animal slaughtered again remains at a consistently high standard and the figure of 7 entire carcasses and organs condemned out of a total of 10,696 slaughtered speaks for itself.

Condemned Meat.—The total weight of carcasses, carcase meat and organs found to be unsound was 6-tons, 10-cwts., 1-qr., the method of disposal being collection not less than twice weekly by Messrs. Tyneside Butchers Bye-Products, Ltd., who recover animal feeding stuffs, fertilisers, glues, fats and chemicals.

All manure is collected weekly by the Borough Engineer's Department for agricultural purposes.

Transport and Handling.—The carrier engaged by the Blyth Meat Traders' Association uses two vehicles specially reserved for meat transport, and regular inspection of these revealed no cause for complaint.

Slaughtering and Slaughterhouse Policy.—The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, came into operation on the 1st August, 1958, and provided for the making of regulations to secure hygienic construction, lay-out and equipment for slaughterhouses. When the new regulations are made they will apply to new slaughterhouses at once and to existing slaughterhouses on dates to be appointed by the Minister for each local authority district. When the new regulations are in force in respect of a particular slaughterhouse, the local authority will have no power to grant or renew a licence for that slaughterhouse unless the premises conform to the prescribed standards.

Hygiene Regulations.—These have been prepared and came into operation on the 1st January, 1959, with the exception of Parts II and III, relating to construction and equipment, which will come into operation on such days and in such areas as the Minister may appoint by order.

Slaughterhouse Reports.—In due course the Council will be required to review and report to the Minister on (a) the existing and probable future slaughtering requirements and, (b), the facilities which are, or are likely to become available, and the Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order,

1959, appoints the 2nd November, 1959, as the earliest day by which local authorities may submit their reports to the Minister about the slaughterhouse requirements of their districts. These reports have to be made during the twelve months after the appointed date and must also include the local authority's recommendation as to the date which the Minister might later fix for the construction regulations to apply to all slaughterhouses in the district.

The Minister also desires that the Council should consult with all organisations representing wholesale and retail sections of the meat trade, the farmers, Co-operative movements and Trade Unions representing the workers in the slaughterhouses and any other local organisation that may be interested in the need for slaughtering facilities, and that a reference should be made in the report to the organisations which have been consulted.

I would refer the Members to the report submitted to the Health Committee in February, 1958, which, with minor modifications, will form the basis of the report on the structural alterations required to bring the slaughterhouse up to the new standard.

PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS

Unsound Food

Details of the quantities of canned goods and other foods surrendered and destroyed during the year are given on page 67.

The general procedure for this is the submission at frequent intervals by the traders of unsound foodstuffs in their possession, for which certificates of unsoundness are given, the goods being then removed to the Corporation tip and covered with refuse.

It was not found necessary to carry out any seizures of unsound food during the year and the few minor complaints by the general public were dealt with by visits to the trader concerned by the officers, and inspection of the premises and stock.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT REGULATIONS)

Meat Inspections 1953

Month	Bulls	Bull- ocks	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total 1958	Total 1957
January ...	—	129	51	5	—	502	259	946	920
February ...	—	124	32	4	2	458	261	881	835
March ...	1	136	37	14	6	458	254	906	703
April ...	2	144	29	17	—	386	285	863	805
May ...	5	138	17	18	—	266	225	669	818
June ...	2	108	69	22	1	322	239	763	699
July ...	1	68	96	20	—	378	224	787	1132
August ...	—	52	112	14	1	382	207	768	1013
September ...	—	86	105	13	—	509	288	1001	1048
October ...	—	95	81	14	1	490	330	1011	1148
November ...	—	86	83	12	—	516	306	1003	1037
December ...	1	127	50	13	—	446	461	1098	1115
Totals ...	12	1293	762	166	11	5113	3339	10696	
			2244						
Totals 1957 ...	3	1337	738	47	11	5801	3327		11273
			2136						

It was found necessary to condemn the following carcasses, flesh and organs :—

				Weight in lbs. of Carcase	Weight in lbs. of Offal	Total Weight in lbs.
<i>On account of :</i>						
Generalised Tuberculosis	Bullock	No. 1	612		94	706
Emaciation and John's						
Pathological	Bullock	No. 2	258		40	298
Traumatism and Gangrene	Cow	No. 1	412		12	424
Pyrexia and Abnormal odour	Calf	No. 1	78		8	86
Immaturity and Toxemia	Calf	No. 2	36		2	38
				1,396	156	1,552
Emaciation and Oedema	Ewe	No. 1	30		3	33
Septicaemia and Gangrene	Sow	No. 1	380		20	400

The following part carcasses and organs were found in the course of inspection to be unfit for human consumption :

				No.	Weight in lbs.
Cattle :	Part carcasses and/or organs	...		791	9,389
Sheep :	Part carcasses and/or organs	...		19	136
Pigs :	Part carcasses and/or organs	...		187	2,443
Beef :	Forequarters ...	...		3	526
	Trimnings ...	...		—	39
Sheep :	Foreleg ...	...		1	6
Pigs :	Legs ...	...		7	60
				1,008	12,599

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned

Form D.S. 97727/1

	Cattle excl'ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,076	166	11	5,113	3,339
Number inspected	2,076	166	11	5,113	3,339
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ...	1	1	2	1	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	465	10	—	18	105
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	22.4	6.6	18	0.4	.31
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	85	16	—	—	55
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis... ..	4.1	9.6	—	—	1.6
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	4	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937

The following imported meats were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

	No. of Tins	Weight in lbs.
Corned Beef	321	711 $\frac{3}{4}$
Corned Mutton	1	$\frac{3}{4}$

Details of Slaughtering, 1958

	Slaughtering Days	Overtime Days	Hours	Saturdays	Sundays	Bank Holidays	Inspections
January ...	23	11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	—	—	41
February ...	22	11	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	2	—	—	40
March... ..	22	13	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	—	—	42
April	22	15	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	2	—	41
May	23	11	13	1	1	1	45
June	23	15	16 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	2	—	44
July	24	9	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	1	—	—	45
August	20	10	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	1	—	28
September ...	22	7	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—	44
October	24	10	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	—	—	27
November ...	24	—	—	3	1	—	46
December ...	26	14	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	2	—	46
	275	126	144 $\frac{1}{4}$	14	9	1	489

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1955
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949
DETAILS OF SAMPLES TAKEN, 1958

Pasteurised Milk from Producer/Retailer inside the Borough.

METHYLENE BLUE		PHOSPHATASE TEST		Total Samples
Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
By Borough 11	1 Void	11	1 Void	24
By County Council 22	2 Void	24	Nil	48

Examination of Milk Bottles for Sterility.

Satisfactory	Fairly Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
61	9	8	78

Turbidity Test—Negative.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-1955

Other Foods

The following foodstuffs were found in the course of inspection to be unfit for human consumption and were destroyed :—

	No. of Tins	lbs.	No.
Vegetables	3,348		4 Packets
Milk	623		
Meat	1,040	485½	
Fruit	1,443		3 Packets
Fish	314		
Soups	263		
Syrups	38		
Puddings	128		12 Packets
Salads	22		6 Jars
Fats	19		
Chicken Fillets	75		
Preserves	5		
Poultry		15	7
Cheese		63¼	1 Packet
Cereals		1½	
Cakes		120	22
Waffles			3 Packets
Potatoes			19 Cases

SANITARY SECTION—Details of Inspections

Number of inspections made during the year 1958	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
(a) <i>Public Health Act, 1930.</i>														
Inspections following complaints—														
General	26	16	23	66	64	70	71	33	60	12	13	11	465	
Re-inspections re outstanding notices	60	42	43	49	60	34	34	128	43	84	50	65	692	
Dirty or Verminous premises	—	1	3	11	9	11	12	18	17	2	8	4	96	
Drainage	—	2	3	2	10	14	14	15	12	24	1	5	102	
Keeping of Animals	—	—	—	2	3	8	9	—	10	—	—	—	32	
Licensed Premises	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	7	
Moveable Dwellings	7	—	—	5	9	—	—	3	1	11	2	—	38	
Piggeries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	20	
Places of Public Entertainment	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	1	—	9	
Spoilbanks	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Water Supplies	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	8	
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
Sanitary Conveniences	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Refuse Tips	—	—	—	—	—	21	22	8	1	—	—	3	54	
Mortuary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	6	
Vacant Sites	1	1	4	2	30	26	27	2	2	3	—	—	98	
Interviews	10	6	4	2	33	32	33	29	36	15	5	8	213	
													1849	1849

Number of inspections made during the year 1958		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
(b) <i>Housing Act, 1957.</i>															
Investigations re Overcrowding		1	—	1	3	1	2	3	4	4	—	3	1	23	
Housing in Clearance Areas ...		—	7	—	—	—	3	3	5	—	—	—	—	18	
Squatters' Camps ...		—	1	—	—	4	1	2	2	2	—	—	—	11	
Corporation Houses ...		6	—	2	10	6	6	6	5	8	—	—	6	55	
Applications for interview re housing and Exchanges		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	
Housing Survey ...		1	—	2	16	4	9	10	—	1	11	3	29	86	
Proposed House Purchase—															
Inspections ...		4	—	2	3	6	20	21	—	1	2	2	3	64	
Interviews ...		4	10	11	11	9	6	7	15	9	15	8	15	120	
PART II :															
Representations ...		2	10	1	5	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	23	
Demolition and Closing Orders—															
Re-inspections ...		14	21	3	26	10	30	31	4	7	15	5	3	169	
Repairs ...		—	—	2	—	9	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	16	
Undertakings ...		1	2	—	14	15	14	14	11	17	13	4	8	113	
Interviews ...		13	5	—	5	22	18	18	14	20	22	9	8	154	
PART III :															
Proposed Clearance Areas—Tenancy details ...		38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	
HOUSING ACT, 1949 :															
Applications re Improvement Grants		9	—	1	—	6	—	2	—	11	12	—	—	41	
Interviews re Improvement Grants...		8	5	2	—	10	4	5	7	7	13	8	3	72	
Inspections re Improvement Grants (including Isabella Colliery) ...		—	52	4	20	34	17	18	31	3	19	3	1	202	
HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT:															
Inspections ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	
RENT ACT, 1957 :															
Interviews ...		—	—	—	—	—	22	22	22	29	12	20	—	127	
Applications for Certificate of Dis- repair and inspections ...		21	6	5	14	18	5	5	—	8	7	6	3	98	
Interview re Certificate of Disrepair		12	26	21	22	48	—	—	22	—	—	—	11	162	
														1597	3446

Number of inspections made during the year 1958													Grand Total
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
(c) <i>Clean Air Act, 1956.</i>													
Interviews ...	4	2	—	—	5	3	4	2	3	—	30	2	55
Inspection of Plant ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	2	1	10
Lead Peroxide Gauges ...	10	5	10	5	5	5	10	—	5	5	5	13	78
Spoilbanks ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	—	—	1	8
Smoke Observations ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	—	—	3	—	14
Smoke Nuisances ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	5
													170
													3616
(d) <i>Factories Act, 1937.</i>													
With Mechanical Power ...	—	—	—	—	—	13	13	29	—	22	6	5	88
With no Mechanical Power ...	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	10	1	—	2	—	25
Outworkers ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
													116
													3732
(e) <i>Shops Act, 1950.</i>													
Sanitary and other arrangements in Shops ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	17	—	1	1	—	—	21
													3753
(f) <i>Pests Act, 1948.</i>													
Allotments ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dwelling Houses ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other Properties ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	3
Council Properties ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8
Sewer Manholes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	162	—	—	—	—	—	162
Interviews ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
													177
													3930
(g) <i>Pet Animals Act, 1951.</i>													
Applications for Renewal of Licences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Investigations made ...	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	8
													11
													3941

Number of inspections made during the year 1958		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
(h) <i>Infectious Diseases (Notifications) Acts.</i>															
Investigations made	—	2	5	7	—	4	4	6	8	1	3	2	42	3999
Investigations made re Dysentery	...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	8	2	—	—	16	
(i) <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955.</i>														58	
Abattoir—Meat Inspection ...	...	41	40	42	41	45	44	45	28	44	27	46	46	489
Cottagers' Pigs ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Examination of Unsound Foodstuffs	...	9	8	14	7	12	14	14	10	11	6	8	5	118	
Bakehouses ...	...	1	—	—	—	—	3	4	1	1	—	—	—	10
Bakery and Confectionery Shops	...	2	—	1	—	—	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	10	
Butchers' Shops ...	...	1	5	—	2	5	15	15	—	3	—	—	3	49
Fish and Chip Shops ...	...	7	1	—	2	—	—	9	3	5	2	—	2	13
General Dealers' Shops	...	—	—	—	3	—	9	—	4	—	1	—	4	38	1459
Greengrocery Shops ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	—	—	1	—	—	1
Preserved Food Shops	...	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	13	
Wet Fish Shops ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Ice-Cream Premises :															
(a) Manufacturing	...	—	—	—	—	7	5	6	4	—	—	—	—	22	
(b) Retail ...	...	1	—	—	1	—	57	58	—	—	6	13	—	136
Restaurants and Cafes	...	—	—	—	—	—	9	9	2	1	—	—	—	21	
Market Stalls ...	...	11	5	5	—	22	30	31	24	24	8	34	32	226
Food Vehicles ...	...	—	11	—	7	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	22
Canteens ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	3
Interviews ...	...	4	7	—	—	5	10	11	3	4	6	7	1	58
Sampling : Chemical															
(a) Water	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	6	5458
(b) Mineral Water Bottles	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	
Bacteriological															
(a) Milk ...	...	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	2	28
(b) Milk Bottles	...	6	6	6	6	6	12	6	6	6	12	6	6	84	
(c) Water ...	...	8	8	4	4	8	6	4	4	4	4	4	4	62
(d) Ice-Cream ...	...	—	—	—	—	5	8	8	9	4	4	—	—	34
(e) Other Specimens	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	1	—	—	10	
														1459	

Number of inspections made during the year 1958		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
(j) <i>Milk and Dairies Orders.</i>	Dairies and Equipment	4	5	3	1	1	2	2	2	1	3	—	—	24	5605
	Heat Treatment Plant	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	—	—	16	
	Milk Shops	6	—	—	3	—	7	8	—	—	2	—	81	107	
(k) <i>Miscellaneous.</i>	Inspections	9	9	7	5	7	6	7	3	5	—	—	4	62	7263
	Interviews	31	19	44	49	22	11	11	1	5	5	6	11	215	
	Number of Informal Notices served	9	1	6	11	9	45	16	7	12	2	7	7	132	
	Number of Statutory Notices served	6	3	—	6	6	26	—	19	13	—	22	—	101	
	Number of Houses treated for eradication of Insect Pests	22	22	25	42	49	50	63	45	57	49	32	27	483	
	Number of Houses disinfected after Infectious Diseases	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
	Number of Houses disinfested at request of Occupier	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	
	Number of items of Bedding, Clothing, etc., destroyed by request...	26	37	56	37	53	59	60	40	60	48	51	45	572	
	Choked drains cleansed	7	10	6	11	6	8	8	8	5	6	6	6	87	
(l) <i>Land Charges Act.</i>	Searches	27	21	30	22	38	39	21	23	35	28	22	22	328	7591

